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February 1968

by Donald C. Keller  
339 Lake Ave  
Lancaster, N.Y. 14086

(

# HISTORY OF THE KELLER FAMILY

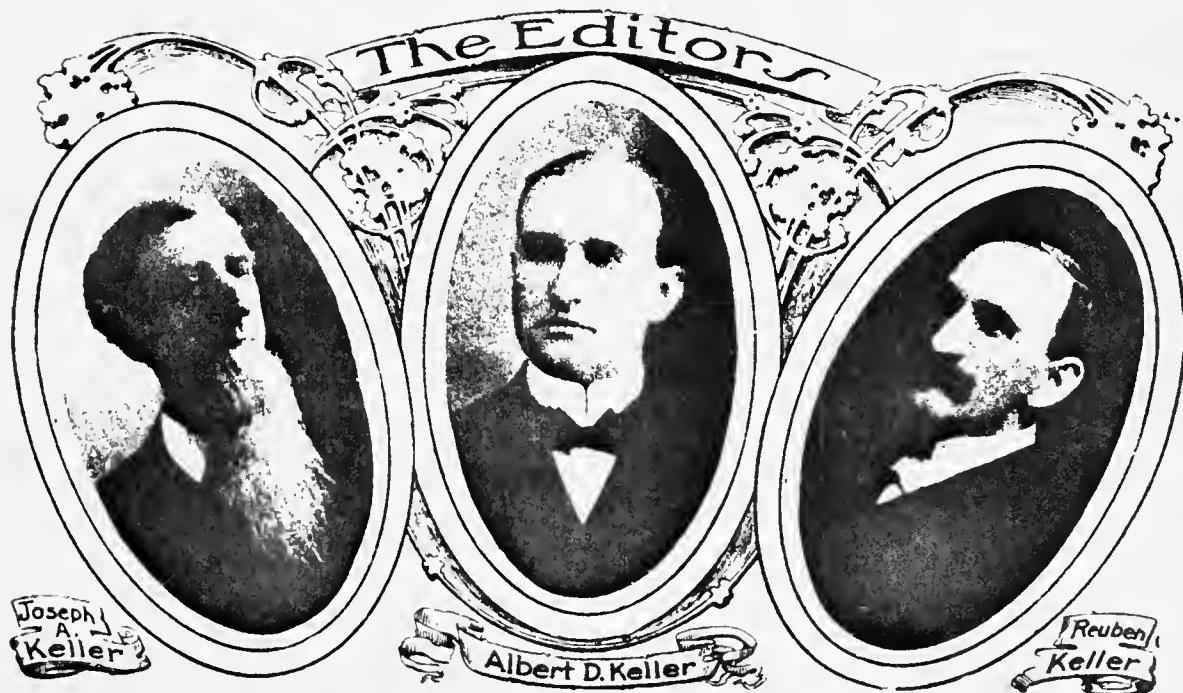
BY THE REV. ELI KELLER, D. D.



TIFFIN, OHIO  
PRESS OF WILL H. GOOD  
1905



REV. ELI KELLER, D. D. (IV, 6)



1571  
K287  
1905  
Coyote

U.S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

1571  
Coyote

FEB 10 1968

# THE

II GENERATI

KEILLER

- 1 CHRISTIAN\*  
 (Killed by Indians, 15. 1757)  
 2 ANNA MARGARET  
 3 MR. MULLER\*  
 (Captain in Coutin  
     Army, and neve  
     turned home)  
 4 HENRY ADAM\*  
 (He had great phy  
     strength; died y  
     of smallpox)  
 5 SIMON\*  
 Once DIPPER\*

7 JOSEPH<sup>°</sup>  
8 MAGDALENE ANDRE<sup>°</sup>

JOHN JACOB I<sup>st</sup>  
(Carried away by the  
Indians, Sept. 15,  
and was never found.)

10 JOHN JACOB II  
10½ MARIA DOROTHY

## ADITIONAL GENERATION

Guth (Good) } A Son, who em-  
Guth (Good). } igrated to  
t husband) America

Keller .....  
and husband) 1 Olderson, who  
emigrated to  
America  
2 Younger Son,  
Joseph (I, 1)



OGDEN



# THE KELLER FAMILY CHART

(No.) 1A) RELATES TO BOOK  
"HISTORY OF THE  
KELLER FAMILY"  
BY REV. ELIJAH JONES

I GENERATION

II GENERATION

III GENERATION

IV GENERATION

V GENERATION

VI GENERATION

VII GENERATION

KELLER  
1 MINTON  
Killed by Indians Sept.  
15, 1750.

2 ANNA MARGARET:  
Mother of 14  
Captain in Continental  
Army and never re-  
turned home.

3 HENRY KELLER  
He had great physical  
strength, died young  
(at 21 years old).

4 MARY KELLER  
Died before 1750.

KELLER  
1 Joseph  
2 Maria Anne  
3 Turner Mull  
4 Maggie  
5 John  
6 Elizabeth Fisher  
7 Leonard (survived)  
8 Joseph  
9 John  
10 Mary Maggie  
11 (2) An English lady  
12 Jacob  
13 Henry Dennis  
14 John  
15 Mary Dennis  
16 Peter  
17 Elizabeth Heller  
18 Henry  
19 Hess

5 JOSEPH:  
A Merchant in Boston.

6 JOHN CALVIN:  
Died at sea 1750  
and was never found.

7 JOHN:  
A Merchant in Boston.

8 JOHN CALVIN:  
Died Nov. 18, 1764

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51	WILLIAH	
52	URIBA	
53 (1) M.		
54	LEWIS	
55	REUBEN	
56 (2) A.		
57	TUGHE	
58	JOHN	
59	MARY	
60	CATHA	
61	THOM	
62	ELIAS	
63	REUBEN	
64	JOSPEH	
65	KELLER	
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#### PLAINFIELD REFORMED CHURCH AND GRAVEYARD

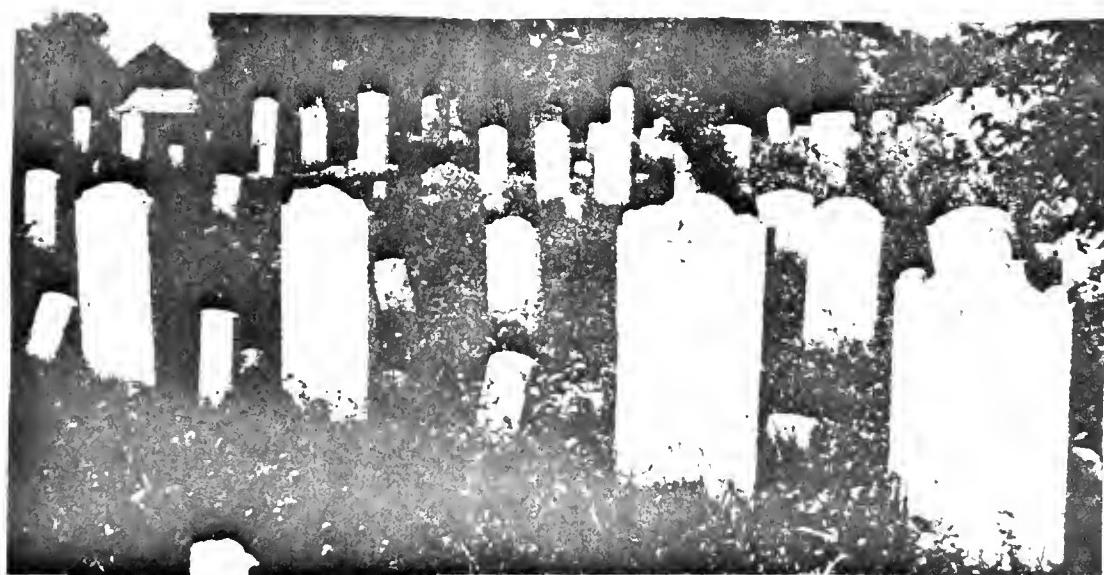
The heavy tombstone in the foreground marks the grave of Mrs. Captain Miller (II, 2), only daughter of Joseph Keller, Sr. (I, 1). No inscription remains, but lead cast in top, by which once an iron crown was fastened, indicates the grave.



GRAVES OF JOSEPH KELLER, SR., I, 1, AND WIFE  
IN PLAINFIELD GRAVEYARD

I have my hand on Mary Keller's (I, 2) tombstone. On my left, near by, is the tomb of Adam Keller (II, 2). Beyond the wall, is the road; beyond that, the house of the organist.

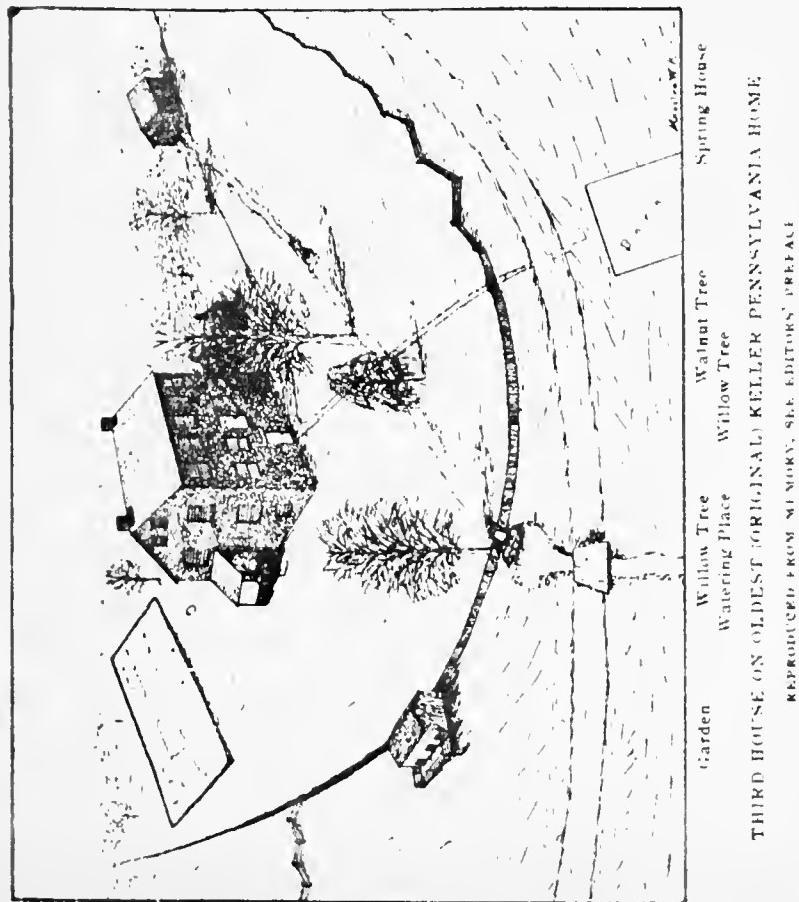
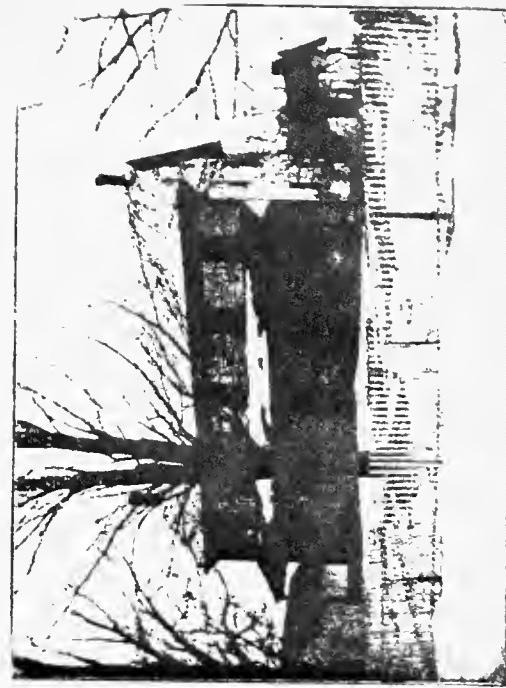
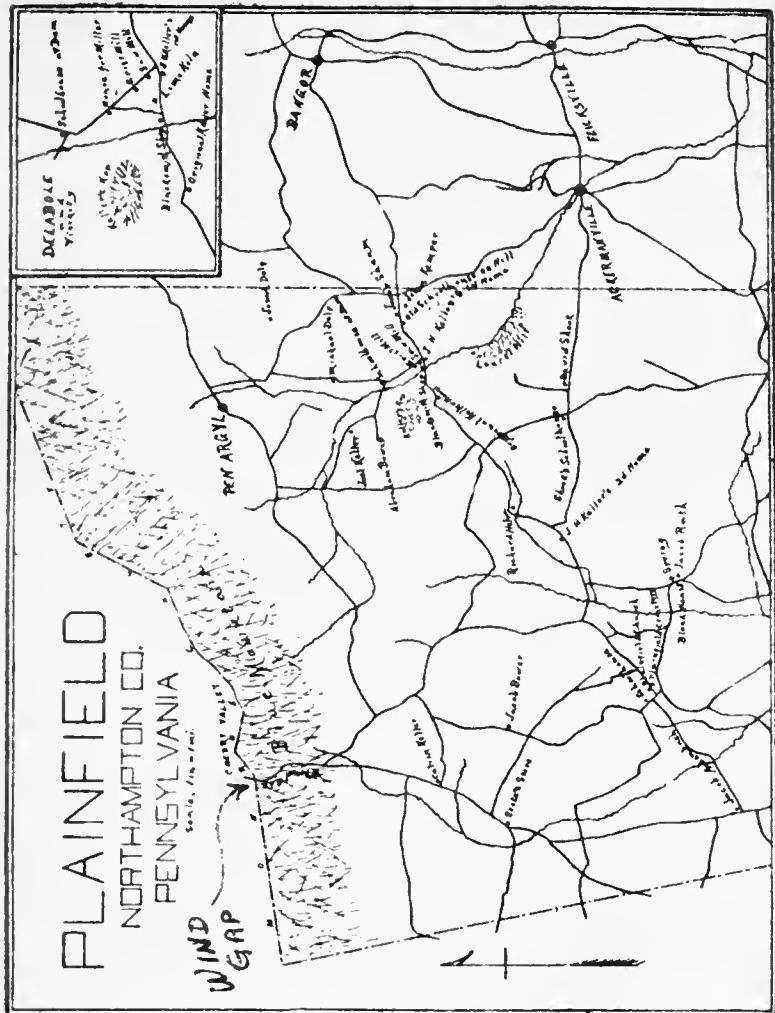
SHOULD BE  
III, 36



GRAVES OF PHILIP KELLER, SR., II, 2, AND WIFE, SUSANNAH ENGLER  
KELLER (II, 13) AND SARAH KELLER (III, 37)  
THREE CHEPACHES, PA.

SHOULD BE II, 11

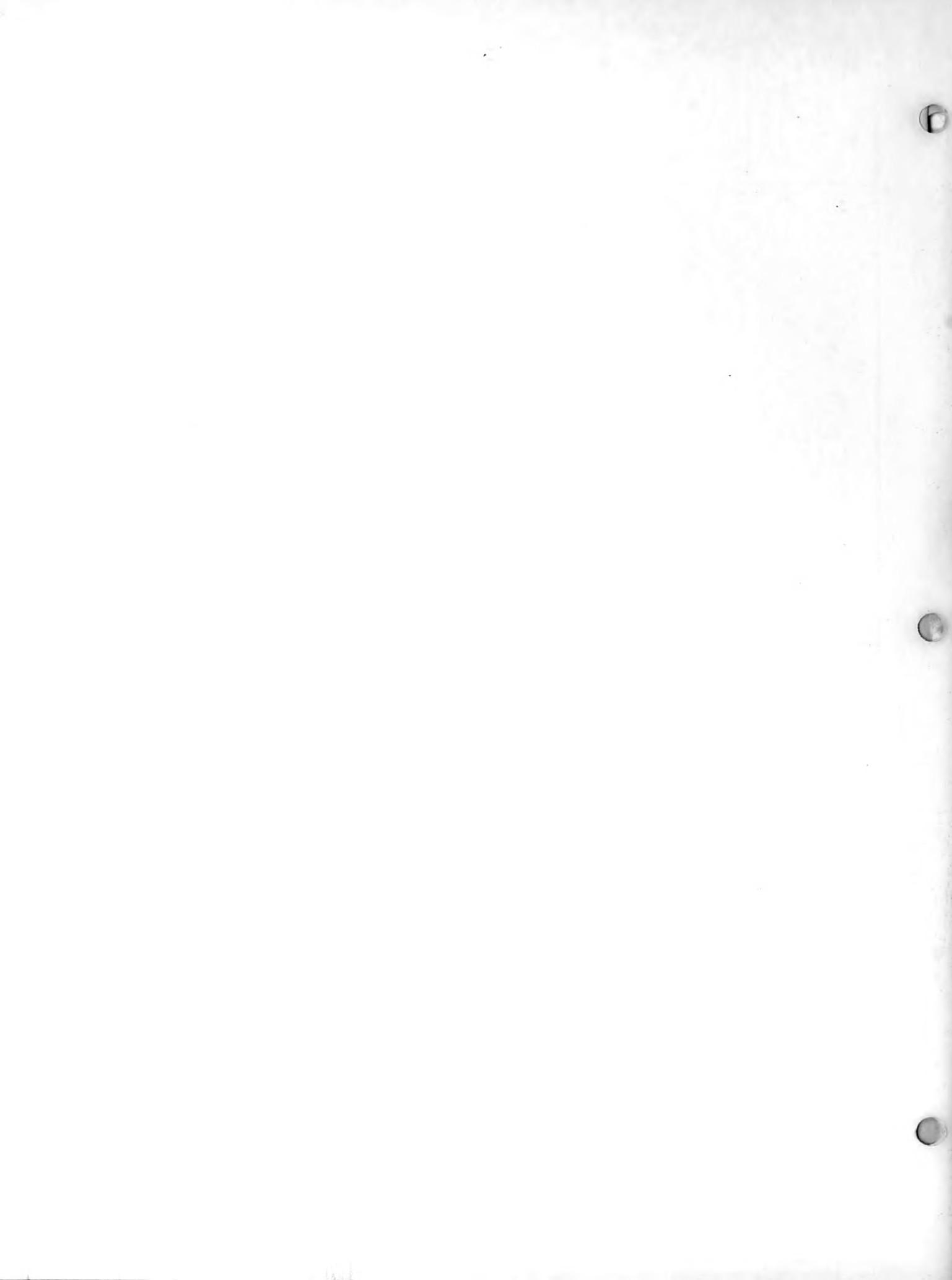


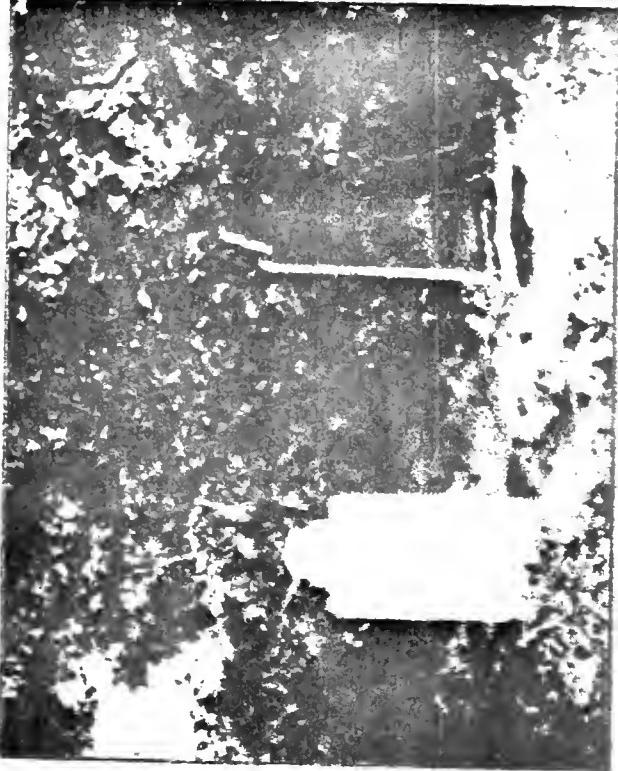


FIRST KELLER HOME (See Page 7)

View from Northeast. Building has in front indicated by a single & this  
the site of the First Keller Home, the place of the Indian Raid, September, 1757.

THE HOUSE OF NANCY KELLER IS ON THE OTHER SIDE  
LAWRENCEVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA, IN THE HOME

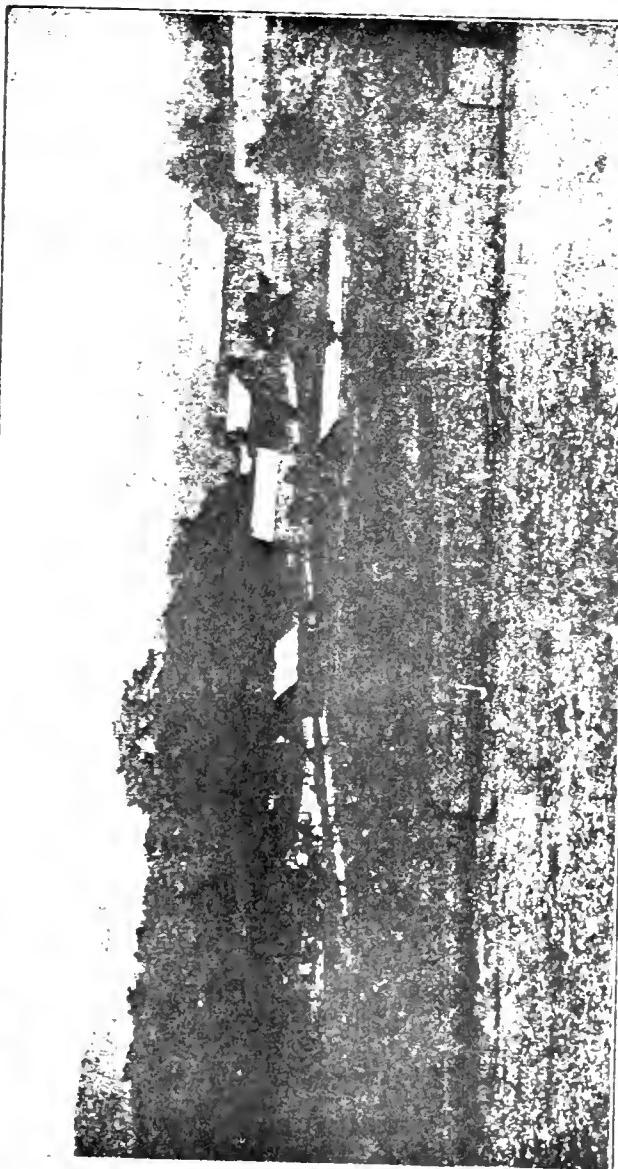




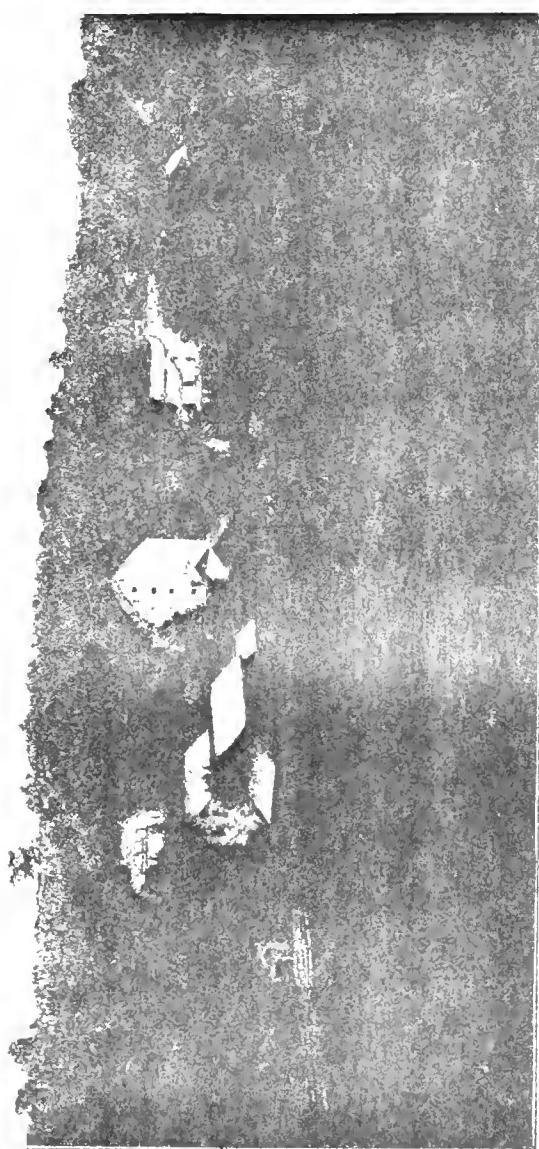
REMAINS OF JOSEPH KELLER JR. (II, 7) AND WIFE MARY, DAUGHTER  
OF JOHN KELLER (II, 8) IN COUNTRY VALLEY PA.  
See Page 46 and 47.



J. H. KELLER HOME  
VALLEY TOWNSHIP, JEFFERSON CO., PA.



HOUSE ON THE HILL  
THE JOHN HENRY KELLER HOME (II, 32) - See Page 47  
HILLS MOUNTAIN IN BACKGROUND

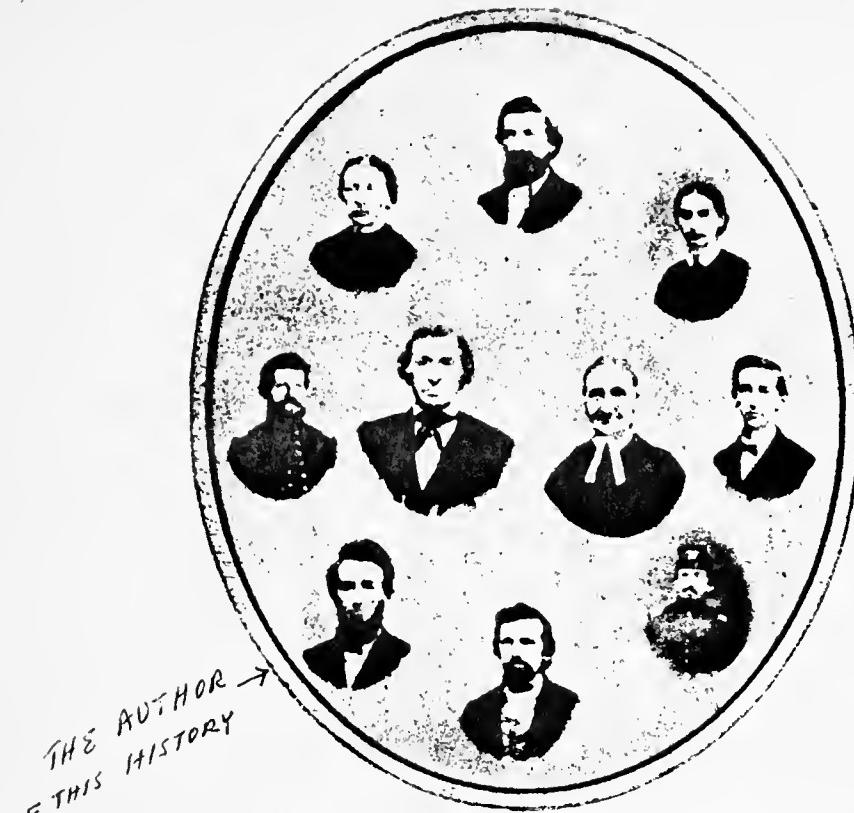


J. H. KELLER HOME

J. H. KELLER MILL  
BLACKSMITH SHOP

DETACHMENT. See Plainfield Map, (op. Page 25)





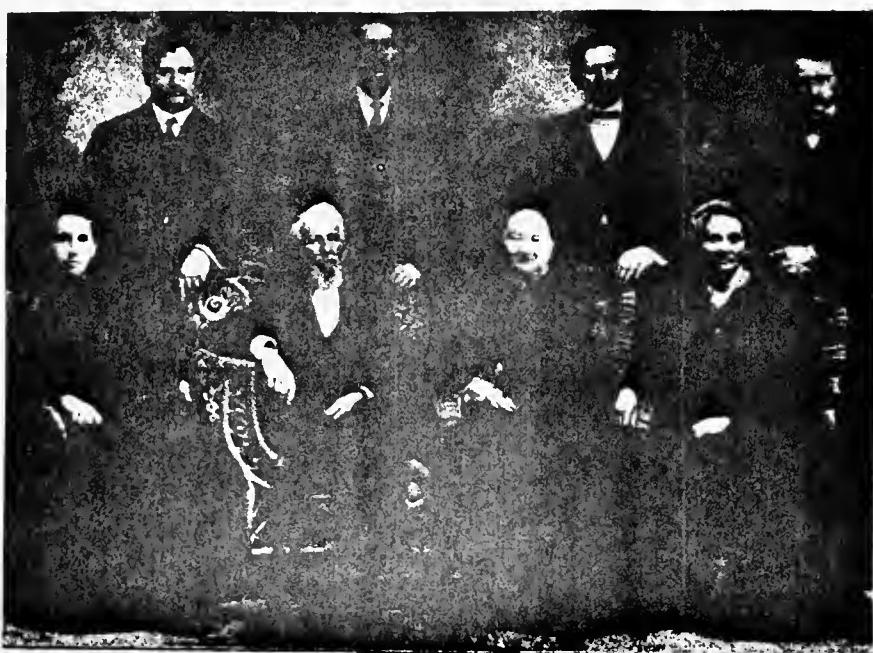
THE AUTHOR  
OF THIS HISTORY

SEE  
PAGE 72

AN EDITOR OF  
THIS HISTORY.

(AMOS & AARON  
KILLED IN CIVIL  
WAR.)

THE JOHN HENRY KELLER (III, 32) FAMILY



Frederick  
Mary Halbach

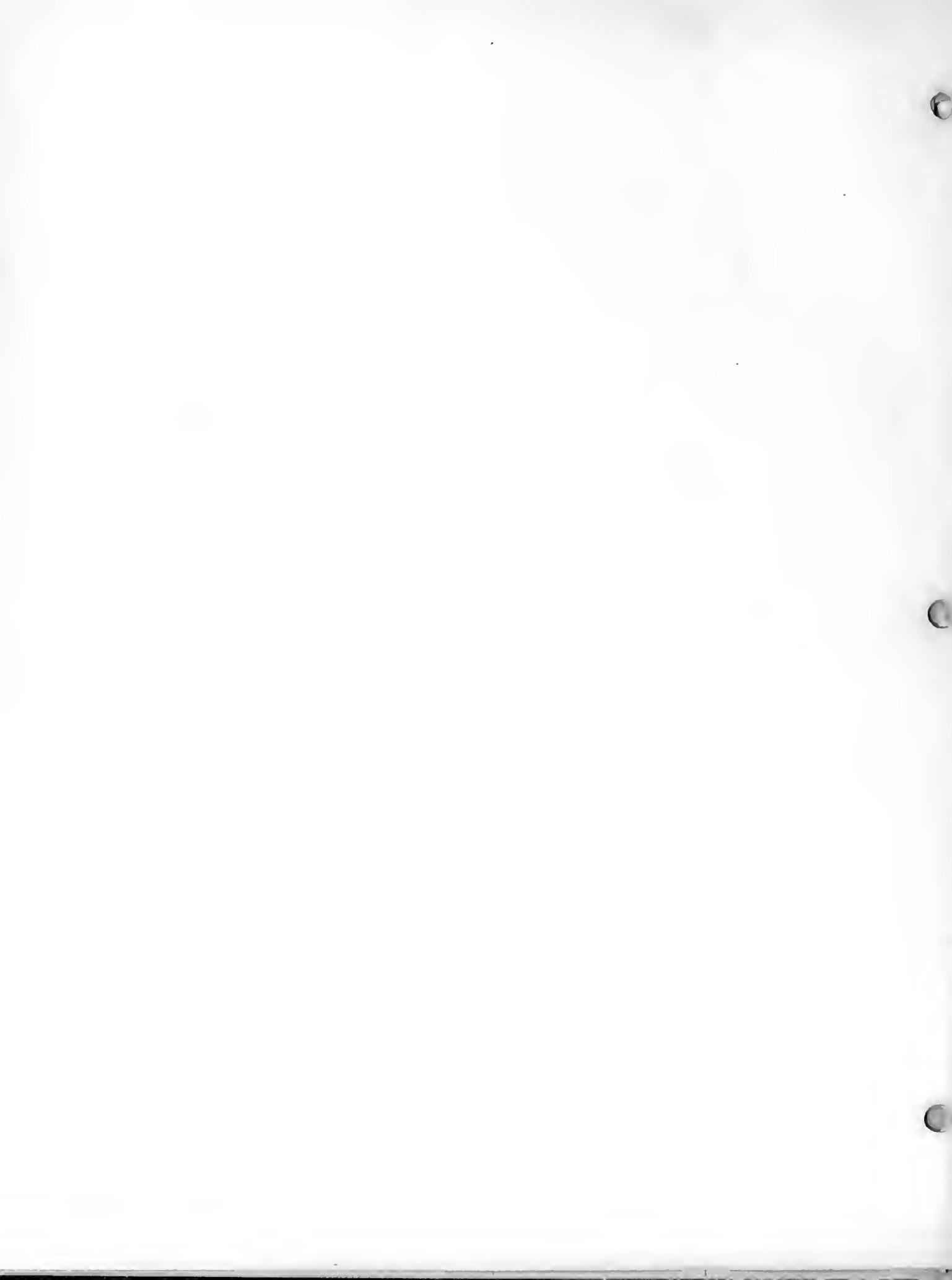
Samuel  
Eli

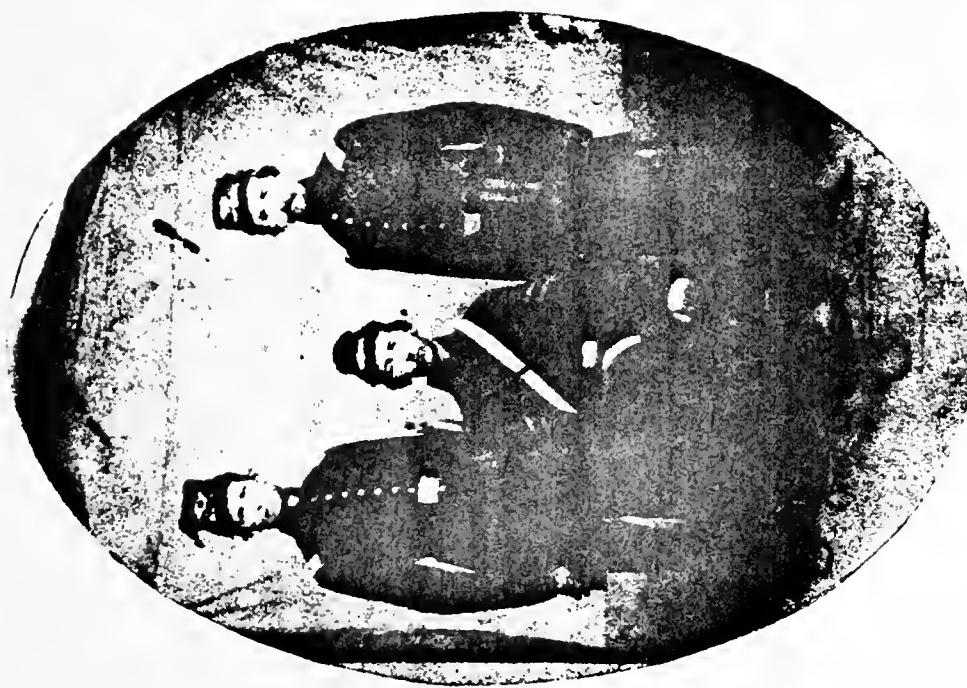
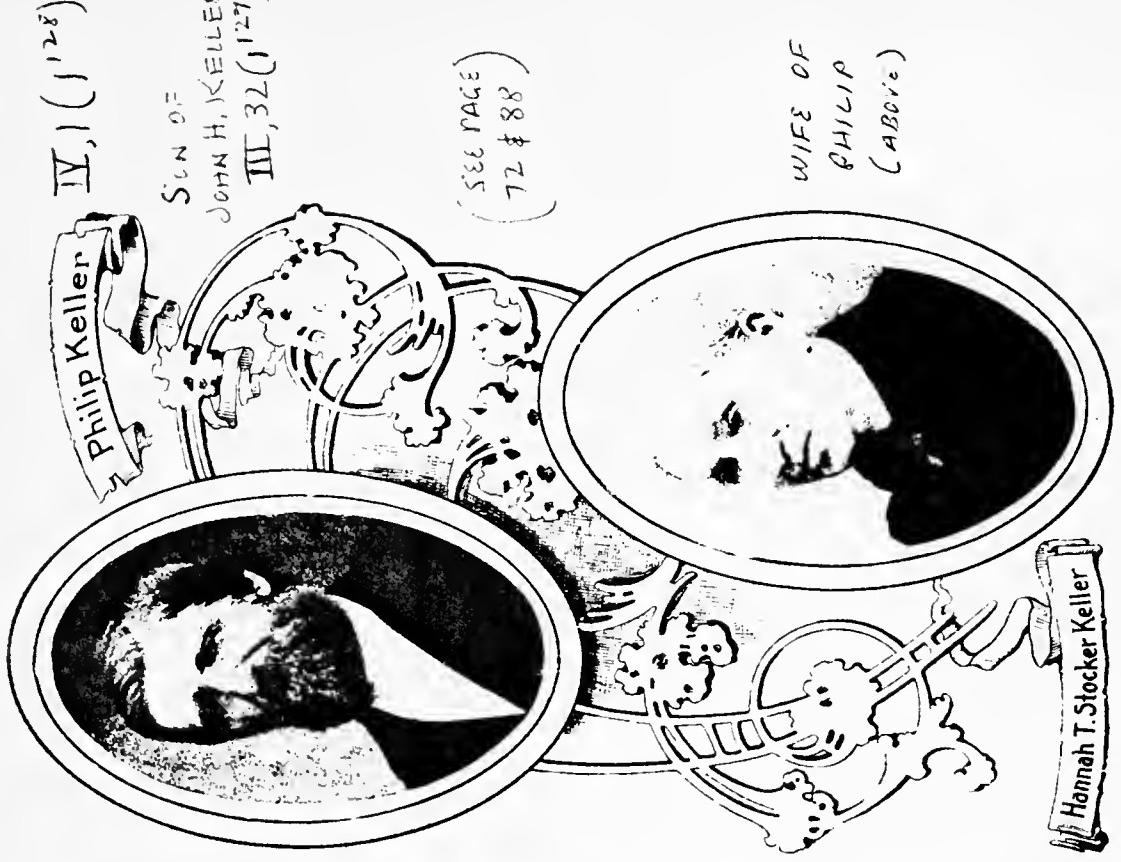
David  
Emma, *nee* Hoffeditz

Calvin  
Emelia Schwartz

THE ELI KELLER FAMILY (See Page 91)

Taken at 40th marriage anniversary, May, 1905





Aaron (IV, 10)

148

THREE OF THE KELLER SOLDIERS

SEE PAGES 72 & 84

JOSEPH IS AN EDITOR OF THIS BOOK.  
AMOS AND AARON WERE KILLED IN CIVIL WAR.  
ALL IS WRITTEN BY BROTHERS AT ELS, AUTHOR OF THIS BOOK.





SARAH KELLER BOWER (IV, 15) (1851)  
 (SEE PAGE 116)  
 DAUGHTER OF JACOB III, 34 (2127)

SON OF  
JACOB  
KELLER  
III, 34 (2127)

III, 17 (2151) SEE PAGE 111 & 117

JOSEPH KELLER



III, 1 (3151)  
 SEE PAGE 111  
 SEE PAGE 118  
 DAUGHTER OF  
JACOB KELLER  
III, 34 (2127)

SEE PAGE 109.

III, 35  
 WIFE OF  
JACOB KELLER  
III, 34 (2127)



WIFE OF JOSEPH (1804)  
 SEE PAGE 115 & 118

LOVINA KLINE KELLER

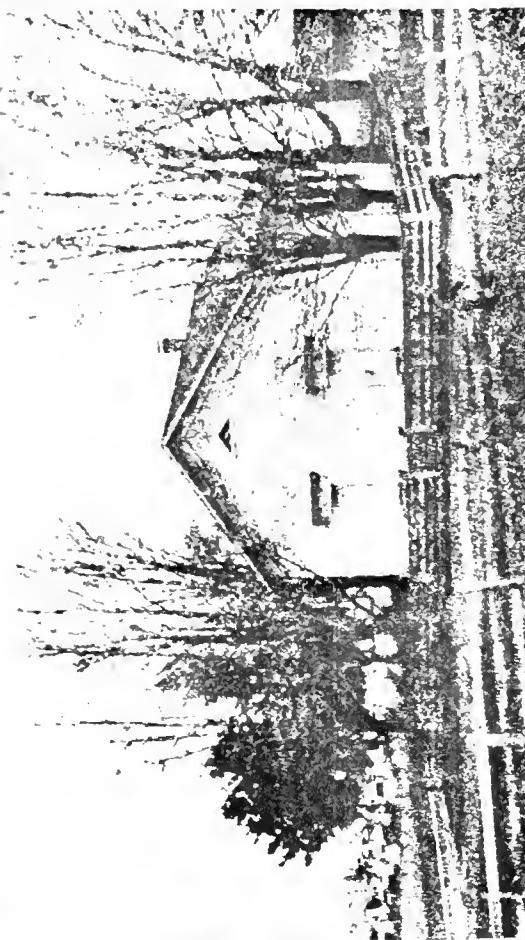
REBECCA KELLER - ELIZABETH SMOOK

SEE PAGE 118  
 SEE PAGE 119  
 DAUGHTER OF  
JACOB KELLER  
III, 34 (2127)





JOEL FREDERICK KELLER (IV, 8)  
SON OF JOHN H. KELLER  
TLL, 32 (1927)  
SEE PAGES 72 & 92

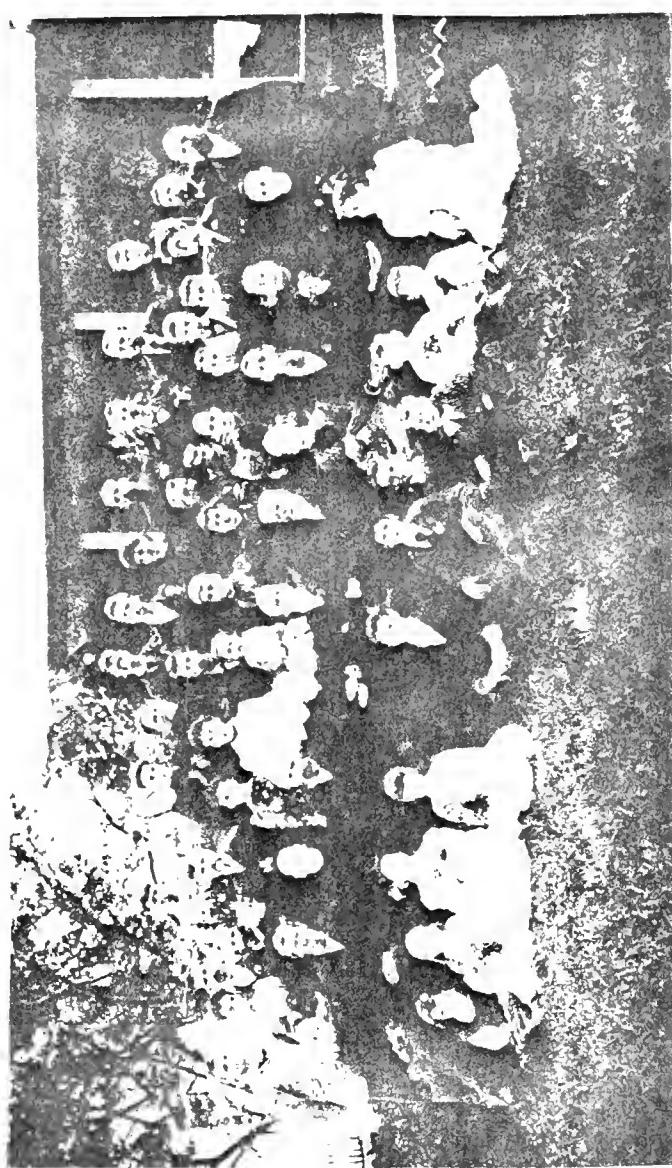


SUSANNAH CHAMM KELLER (IV, 9)

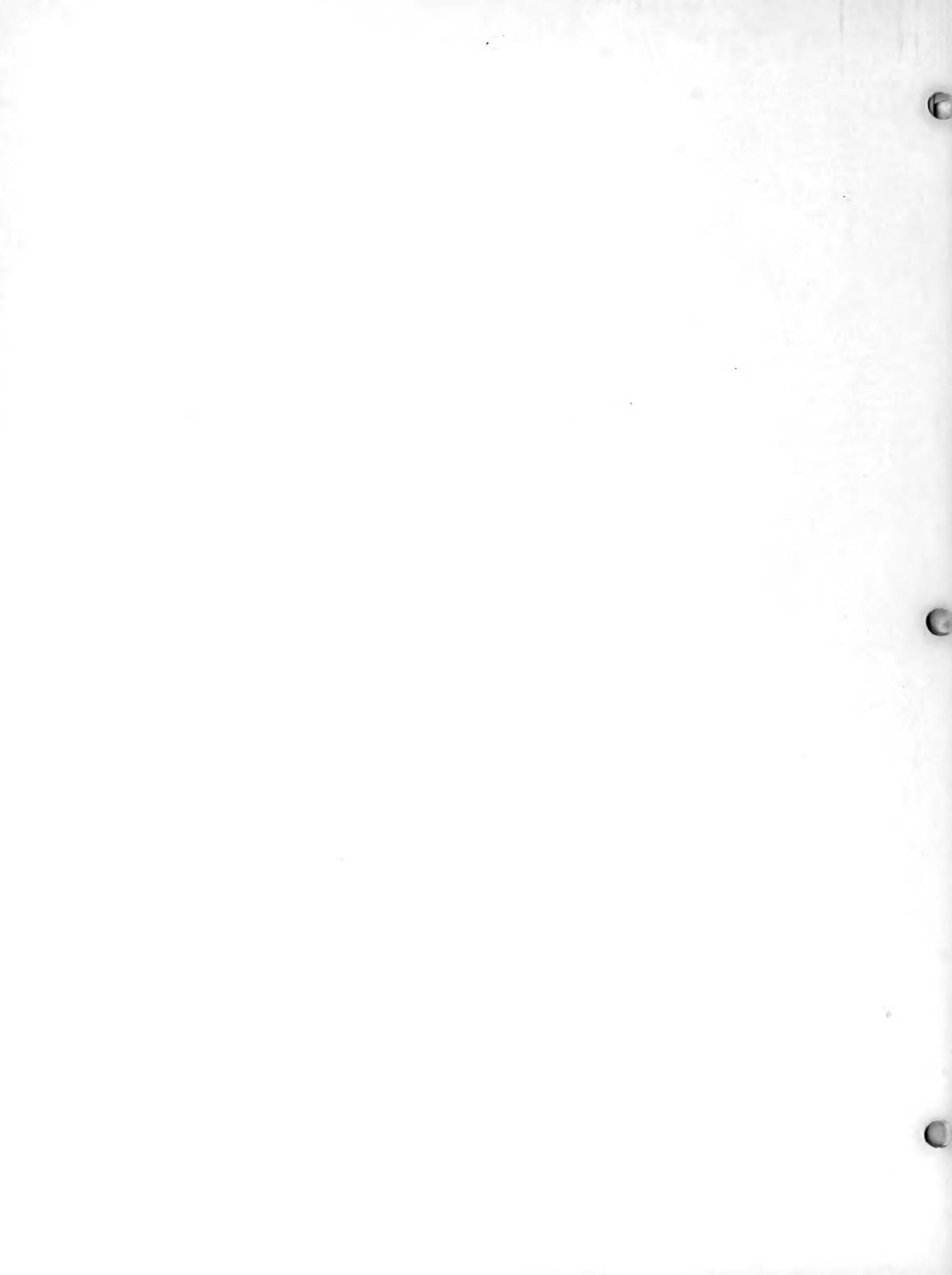
THE UNION REFORMED CHURCH  
ONE MILE SOUTH OF ST. LUCIE, ILLINOIS, CHICAGO



HENRY KELLER (IV, 10)  
SEE PAGE 51



THE FIRST REUNION - See Page 150



## EDITORS' PREFACE

WE take pleasure in offering this book to the members and friends of the Keller Family.

It comes, not as the rival of any other work, nor is it the product of any individual's ambition. It is a history of the family, by the family, and for the family.

At the third reunion, held in 1899, the historians, Dr. Eli Keller and Amos Keller, were advised to consider the subject of preparing a family history. At the fourth reunion in 1902, unanimous action was taken to carry out this purpose. Dr. Eli Keller was requested to prepare the manuscript. Amos, Joseph A., Reuben, Elias and Samuel Keller and J. A. Welsh were appointed a committee to assist in gathering material for the history; and Albert D., Joseph A., and Reuben Keller were named as a committee for its publication. This action was decisive, it pointed out the way.

Naturally much work would fall to some, and little to others; but those who did the most have the greatest joy, for it has been a labor of love. We bear witness to the kindly affection and unselfishness with which services have been rendered.

We are glad that so much concerning the character and experiences of our ancestors has been put in form for the use of later generations. May it inspire them to do well their work in life, and prove themselves worthy descendants of a worthy ancestry!

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## EDITORS' PREFACE

The Editors wish to thank those persons, whose names already appear in this preface, for the kind aid given. Thanks are also due Jeremiah Keller for his help in collecting the material for the Plainfield Map and the Third Keller Home. With him worked Eli, Reuben, Oliver J., Philip, and Joel F. Keller. This material for the map and picture was then arranged by Manelva W. Keller under the direction of Inez I. Crampton, Principal Department of Art in Heidelberg University, Tiffin, O. The accuracy and form of both map and picture are due to the pains taken by Manelva W. Keller and her teacher.

Thanks are due Manelva W. Keller for help in reading and correcting proof.

The Editors take this way of thanking all who helped toward bringing this book to completion. They trust that some younger person will now take up this work of collecting and organizing historical material where our faithful historian leaves it.

Some information came too late, for which space has been devoted at the close of this book.

Death visited the Editorial Committee while in the very midst of its plans and work, and took away Reuben Keller.

The Chart contains the genealogy from Joseph Keller(I, 1)through Philip Keller (II, 11). Charts for the other children can also be made.

ALBERT D. KELLER,  
JOSEPH A. KELLER,  
REUBEN KELLER.

JULY 24, 1905.

---

A happy family is but an earlier heaven & & &  
—BOWRING

---

## DEDICATED TO

Those who believe that any who care not about their earthly origin, care little as to anything higher & & &  
—HARBAUGH

We are not born as the partridge in the wood, or the ostrich of the desert, to be scattered everywhere; but we are to be grouped together, and brooded by love, and reared day by day in that first of churches, the family &  
—HENRY WARD BECHER



"We are among those who believe that any who care not about their earthly origin, care little as to anything higher." —Harbaugh

THE Apostle Paul gives the Fifth Commandment with its promise thus: "Honor thy father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." By "father and mother," we are to understand our ancestry in generations past. We are not now created, but born into the world. The greatest gift the world ever received is its Savior, who came in the line of his genealogy which Matthew traces down from Abraham and David, and Luke, then, back again even to Adam. This includes the whole human family, that all might believe and be saved. The "honor" we are to bestow implies love and respect to our ancestry—to keep green their memory and show ourselves worthy of and grateful for them. Even Christ himself, the God-man, in whom all the fulness of the Godhead dwelleth bodily, must be included. The promise here made is exceedingly broad and rich—to be well and have a long life on the earth. This includes all we can rightly desire in the earthly, and also obtain for Christ's sake in the Heavenly Home.

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Our great and glorious nationality was founded in the providence of God gradually, by the transplanting into our virgin American soil of individuals and families from the old world. They did not come as a great host—as did the Israelites under Moses and Joshua, through the desert into the promised land; of whom the eightieth Psalm speaks beautifully, under the figure of a single vine—but came, as comes the precious wheat in numberless grains from the hand of the sower, to bring forth the golden harvest after the storms of winter.

Prof. I. D. Rupp, of Philadelphia, published a "collection of upwards of 30,000 names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French, and other immigrants in Pennsylvania from 1727-1776." In this collection, women and children are not included. What a host this, in itself considered, not to refer to those who came before, and the many more that followed even down to our own time, transplanted in fifty years. No wonder that the greatest and most promising nation has already sprung up from this liberal Divine seed-sowing.

Among the thirty thousand and more immigrants, we find only a single name with whose history primarily we have to do—Joseph Keller.

Looking across the great ocean and to the long past, we cannot expect to have from the start a clear vision. We have, it is true, not a few written data and traditional material besides, which will be to us as the guiding hand and the seeing eye. Coming in our researches down to our own time,

we are however not given to uncertain conclusions, but have historical facts, simple and sure. Gathering up and setting in order the history of our own family in this country down to the present, we pay a debt of gratitude, due to our beloved ancestry as well as to ourselves, and at the same time set an example to our posterity worthy of their regard and imitation.

In carrying out our instructions, various difficulties were encountered. The efforts to discover other branches of our family were fruitless; but the awakened interest in this matter may yet lead to the discovery of these "lost tribes."

It is not too much to hope, yes and not too much to ask that some loyal person in our family take up the work of collecting material where this volume must now leave off. It was felt that the time had come that the material now in hand should be put into book form. The work is now done with the best of our ability.

No personal history is given beyond the fifth generation. We think this a good starting point for the coming historian. Let no more traditional epochs be necessary, but get the facts in hand so that all the work done may be thoroughly authentic. This is my wish as I place the material in this book into the hands of the members of our dear family.



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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

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## SUGGESTIONS

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REV. ELI KELLER, D. D.—HISTORIAN.....	Frontispiece
THE EDITORS.....	
PLAINFIELD REFORMED CHURCH AND GRAVEYARD.....	
PLAINFIELD MAP.....	
FIRST KELLER HOME.....	
GRAVES OF JOSEPH KELLER, JR., AND WIFE.....	
THIRD HOUSE ON OLDEST (ORIGINAL) KELLER PENNSYLVANIA HOME.....	
HENRY KELLER.....	
GRAVES OF PHILIP KELLER, SR., AND WIFE.....	
THE JOHN HENRY KELLER FAMILY.....	
THREE OF THE KELLER SOLDIERS.....	
PHILIP KELLER, AND WIFE.....	
JOEL F. KELLER, AND WIFE.....	
THE ELI KELLER FAMILY.....	
SARAH KELLER BOWER.....	
JOSEPH KELLER, AND WIFE.....	
ELIZABETH SHOOK KELLER.....	
RACHELLA KELLER.....	
THE PLAINFIELD REFORMED CHURCH.....	
DELAHOLE.....	
THE JOHN HENRY KELLER OHIO HOME.....	
THE JACOB KELLER OHIO HOME.....	
THE JOHN HENRY KELLER PENNSYLVANIA HOME.....	
THE FIRST REUNION.....	
THE UNION REFORMED CHURCH.....	

b.—born.

dau.—daughter or daughters, text will show which.

d.—died or dead, text will show which.

mar.—married.

Roman numerals (I, II, etc.) indicate the generations on the folder. The Family Chart; the Arabic numerals (1, 2, etc.) indicate the number of the individual in his generation as indicated on the Chart. For example, (I, 1) refers to our common ancestor, Joseph Keller, whose name appears on the left margin of the Chart.

On page 38, you will find 1<sup>1</sup> Jacob. The small figure (3) will now indicate the family name Muttily. The large figure 1 will indicate the number of the person in his family in the order of birth. In this case, you will find the ten children of Maria Ann Muttily, *nee* Keller, given in the order of their birth. Then they are taken up with their respective families as follows: page 38, 1<sup>1</sup> Jacob, 2<sup>1</sup> George, 3<sup>8</sup> Philip, 4<sup>3</sup> Charles; page 40, 5<sup>3</sup> Simon; page 42, 6<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth, 7<sup>3</sup> Mary; page 46, 8<sup>3</sup> Sarah; page 47, 9<sup>3</sup> Susan and 10<sup>3</sup> Anna Maria. In this way, each family is indicated. The small figure, therefore, stands for the name of the family with which it is first found. The small numbers increase by one as you pass from one family to another. This explains why 1<sup>1</sup> Samuel, top page 43, is a Kaufmann, the small figure (3<sup>8</sup>) being one higher than the (3<sup>8</sup>) near bottom of page 42.

Ample room is left on the right margin of the Chart for additional names.

For information concerning the location of the first Pennsylvania homes, turn to the Map opposite page 25.

With the illustrations the Chart and the Map should be used.

Keep the Chart before you as your guide in reading.

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(13)



## CHAPTER I

JOSEPH KELLER, SR.—BIRTH, FAMILY, HOME

**J**OSEPH KELLER (I, 1) was born March 15, 1719, in Schwarzenacker, near the city of Zweibrücken, Bavaria (Rhein-Pfalz). Of his parents we have no record. By tradition, we have the following: His mother was first the wife of a Mr. Guth, and had a son who, when grown, emigrated to America. When widowed, she married a Mr. Keller and had two more sons. Mr. Guth was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, but dying when his children were young, they were instructed and confirmed in the Reformed Church, to which the mother belonged. The father of the two brothers also emigrated to America, and settled in Virginia. Under these circumstances, Joseph, the younger son, our ancestor was born and reared. The family was a broken and scattered one, and its life must have been unsettled and defective.

That country, especially around Zweibrücken, is exceedingly beautiful. On the east, ten or twelve miles away, rise the Hardt mountains, from

; See Traditional Generation on Family Chart.

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## CHAPTER II

EMIGRATION TO AMERICA, AND ITS CAUSES

**S**O ATTRACTIVE a country as already described we might suppose to be able to keep its inhabitants, both old and young. So, too, the only remaining son (as far as we know) should have had no desire to leave the mother; especially so because she was a widow. Yet very often appearances are deceptive. Serpents having the brightest colors are the most poisonous. The most fluent talkers are often the greatest liars. France never was a true friend to Germany. For many years it had gradually gained the ascendancy, and German kings and princes, imitating the immorality, pride, and infidelity of France, were much to blame. To Germany, France was like the Simon of the Promised Land, striking it from the south and blasting every green herb. Germany, divided in itself, had to look down into France as into the crater of a volcano, not knowing at what moment it would belch forth its destructive lava to the sad formula: "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust."

Joseph Keller was now eighteen years of age, and but too soon would have had to leave his mother and all as an enrolled soldier. What then could the afflicted mother do? Words and even tears would be of no avail. To two sons she had already given her blessing upon their going to America, and well might she add also the third.

(16)

whose rills and rivulets, Erbach river is formed, and flows down the valley to the Saar and the Mosel rivers. Near by on the west and south lies sunny France. On all sides, vineyards and lowlands, as it were, interchange friendly greetings. Rev. Dr. P. Vollmer, of Philadelphia, when he heard our ancestor was from Zweibrücken, exclaimed: "Ah, you should see that country, its richness and beauty can not be described!"

Prof. A. L. Koeppen, a Dane highly educated and especially versed in ancient history, when he heard my name at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and I told him we traced our family to Bavaria, said: "Ah no, never, the name Keller is Swiss!" I asked: "How do you get around Bavaria?" He said: "Easily enough—at the time of the great plague (14 century) your ancestors, with many others, moved down from the mountains into the Rhine-countries to escape the so-called 'Black Death.'" Thus, then, like the noted Rhine, having its sources in the snow-capped Alps, we as a family have our source far back in the country of Tell and Zwingli! The blood in our veins, and the thoughts of our minds may still have, after so long a time, some affinity with the past—how much we cannot know, much less describe.

Whatever dangers could threaten in the long sea-voyage or in the wilds of America, in her estimation the certain dangers at home were greater.

He may have received favorable letters from his brother, and especially from his step-brother Guth (Good), to whom he made his way as soon as possible after reaching America.

And there is another possibility, and even probability, which cannot be passed by silently. His subsequent faithful wife was Mary Engel Drummon, (I, 2) of Ernsweiler, near Zweibrücken. She was exactly six months older than he, born September 15, 1718. According to the above mentioned collection of names, John Adam Drummon came to America exactly two months before our Joseph Keller did. The name Engel must be a family name, appearing in the records of that time, and was likely the name of her mother. The name Drummon is found but once in said book. Mary Engel Drummon must have been either that man's sister or daughter, most likely the former. These two, Joseph and Mary, must have known each other personally in their home—likely attended school and catechetical instruction together. In the latter case they were probably confirmed at the same time, and by the same pastor as members of the Reformed Church, and worshiped together every Sunday. These conclusions rest upon stated facts.

All these considerations show how natural and reasonable it was for our ancestor to leave his childhood home, and come across the great deep when he did. He landed at Philadelphia, October



## CHAPTER III

### A WORLD OF LABOR

JOSEPH KELLER, after a long yet safe journey to the new world, found himself in the family of his step-brother Guth. Mary Engel Drumm was not far away with her brother, John Adam Drumm, in their own home. On all sides there was plenty of work, as is always the case in a new country. Winter was at the door; necessary shelter for man and beast had to be provided; fuel and provisions had to be laid in. Both ax and flail could not rest, except Sundays. The great end held steadily in view by every family was *an own home*, where no one could "molest or make afraid."

We take it that Joseph and Mary were not far apart, and were of one mind and one heart. They looked forward to a time when they too, as well as others, would have their own home clear of all encumbrance. Did others labor faithfully and long for so great a boon, so would they—the one for the other. Many would suppose that next in order to make sure of happiness, would be marriage; such, however, was not their opinion. By comparing dates, it is evident to us that the day of their marriage was put off five years. This was the free-will offering to secure by faithful labor and strict economy a home in America. They had set a high and honorable mark for their combined efforts. They knew very well that God's blessing

(19)

### 18 HISTORY OF THE KELLER FAMILY

31, 1737. The name of the ship which carried him was "William", named after William III, king of England and Stadtholder of Holland, (William Henry of Nassau, Prince of Orange), born at The Hague, November 4, 1650, died at Kensington, March 8, 1702. The name of the captain was John Carter. It sailed from Rotterdam, Holland, on the river Meuse, twenty-four miles from the sea, and touched at Dover, England. It carried 180 passengers. How long a time it took to make the voyage we are not told, likely about two months. One passenger, Matthew Switzer, was drowned, from this we infer that the voyage had its storms and dangers according to Ps. 107:25.

### 20 HISTORY OF THE KELLER FAMILY

would crown their labors with success, and what vows they laid down together on his altar can only be imagined. That in their case there was no room for or danger of having the affections alienated by outsiders needs no mentioning. As Jacob, the patriarch, served Laban seven years for Rachel, and by reason of his love for her did not think the time long, or the labor hard. So was it in their case.

Here was not a shadow of our German tramp; nor of those who are ever looking away to strangers for the partners of life; nor yet of those who spend as fast, (possibly a little faster) than they earn—living and laboring, but without a high and noble aim. Our ancestors stood in the front rank of noble American pioneers. The old Fatherland might have kept them and profited by their faithful and patient labor, had the government not only been *over* but *for* the people.

## CHAPTER IV

### MARRIAGE AND HOME

THE exact place where the families of Drumm and Guth, linked in our history, were located, is not known; but where our ancestor, Joseph Keller, after his marriage founded his own home is well understood. Midway between the Plainfield Church and the town of Bangor, in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, the country is a romantic one, stretching upward from the Delaware River a distance of about eight miles to the long chain of the Blue Mountain. All along to the very top of this mountain are springs of pure water meandering musically in bright streams toward the Delaware. On the sides of these larger streams, all over the country, other springs afford tributaries. About two miles from the base of the mountain, is a fine spring flowing northward into a larger stream half a mile or more away. This spring, these hills, and slopes were the place selected by Joseph (I, 1) and Mary Engel Keller (I, 2) as their future earthly home.

Why this particular selection was made, while yet the whole country was open, we do not know. It may be that in the grand Blue Mountain, they saw a similarity to the Hardt Mountains in the Fatherland. The quality of the land is not the richest, and yet it always rewards judicious and faithful labor. The air generally coming down from the mountain, as also the water, is always

(21)



pure and invigorating. The land was well covered with all manner of wood, especially chestnut on higher ground. Stones adapted for building were found plentifully in the low grounds. Deer, bears, and other game roved over the country. Wild pigeons, quails, and all manner of birds, at times, filled the air or sounded forth their happy voices from the woods. The soil is well adapted to all kinds of fruit and vegetables.

The first house, erected by these pioneers themselves under the sheltering limbs of a large Whiteoak tree and by the side of the said spring, was but a mere hut. Two important and valuable articles in that home are in my hands as relics; the large illustrated German family Bible and the Reformed Hymn Book, with notes, containing the Heidelberg Catechism, forms, etc., printed in Zweibrücken. In the Bible are family records, written in German type by Father Keller himself at different times and under various circumstances.

Who can describe the feelings of these pioneers, delivered now from the yoke of oppression; the land on which they labored was their own personal property; the home for which they had long sighed and prayed and labored, now from day to day was assuming form and beauty. The image and desire of their hearts turned into happy vision. Six days every week, they found occasion to labor; and on Sunday the Bible and Hymn Book gave great help to worship the great God, who "setteth the solitary in families; he bringeth out those which are bound with chains." Ps. 68:6. (22)

covenant sealed thereby, were a mere formality and farce. Two names, and those double, are quite alike. The one first bearing it was carried away by the Indians, and the second, less than six months old was not yet baptized. Seemingly, the father had a premonition that the former would nevermore return, and so it proved. The last one of the list was born just six years after the one before—the mother during that time being three years in captivity, as the following chapter will relate.

We will here give a brief description of the life they lived, in which, with the exception of a few years, we may call them "a happy family." Their experience with death was the experience of many another family; one died young (the 3d) as a reminder, that whatever our earthly home may be, we are to seek the heavenly.

This manner of life was in harmony with the age in which they lived. That it was a life of labor, needs no stating. That very fact, since they were all of robust constitution, increased their happiness. The material for their clothing was home-raised, home-spun, home-woven and home-made. The annual patch of flax, and the well-cared-for flock of sheep served well their part. Their fuel was not brought from far, and both beef and pork in season was of their own raising. In the Fall, a deer or two, and in the Spring, now and then, a string of fish, caught by the boys, were sure to come. If water and rye-coffee were not always acceptable, apples in their time furnished both cider and vinegar. Corn for mush, and potatoes with (24)

## CHAPTER V THE HAPPY FAMILY

A PLACE for a home in this Western World having been selected, it required time and toil under the benign smiles of Providence to establish and build it up. The best gifts, and chief condition of a true family are children. Among those according to Ps. 127, the sons stand foremost. Here in regular order we give the names and dates of the births of all the children, born in this first Keller family, copied from the very pen of Father Keller:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Christian, born September 10, 1743.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Anna Margaret, born March 15, 1745.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Henry Adam, born January 1, 1747. (DIED YOUNG)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Simon, born October 29, 1749.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Joseph, born January 15, 1751.
- 6<sup>th</sup> John Jacob, born July 10, 1754.
- 7<sup>th</sup> John Jacob, born March 22, 1757.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Philip, born March 29, 1763.

This is in more than one respect a remarkable record—seven sons and one daughter entering life in regular succession. The first name is taken from the name of Christ himself, as if copied from our Catechism (Quest. 32), "Why art thou called a Christian?" All the others, except one, are taken from the Scriptures. How different this is from giving children all manner of outlandish and fanciful names, as if Baptism itself and God's holy (23)

### HISTORY OF THE KELLER FAMILY 25

milk often satisfied the appetite. Bread was made of rye-flour. This rye was raised in their own fields, threshed with their own flails, ground in their own mills, and baked in their own ovens. Lumber was taken from logs, grown in their own woods, and sawed on their own sawmill. Chestnuts, hickory-nuts, hazelnuts and wild plums were found in abundance in the Fall of the year. The highest mountain and the lowest marshes were for huckleberries. The little medicine needed was prescribed by the mother from her "Herb-bed" in the garden. There were no laws yet prohibiting hunting or fishing on one's own land, or on land not yet taken up. They made little money, but that honestly, and always spent less than they made. In the Fall, the underbrush of the intended "Newground" was grubbed; in the Winter, the cord-wood of oak and hickory and pine was cut, and in the Spring, posts and rails were made of chestnut. High grounds were for buckwheat, and low for meadows; from both "the little busy bee" gathered its sweet stores, which, if not placed in provided boxes, were later found in hollow trees.

Such are a few hints in the picture of "a happy family" of the olden time.



## GREAT AFFLICION

**I**N THE Spring of 1757, (May 18) England by reason of certain encroachments on its territory in this country by France, declared war against that nation. The war is known as the "French and Indian War" and ended after seven years by the defeat of the French. The Thirteen English Colonies were located along the Atlantic, whilst France held possessions in Canada, and down along the Mississippi. Between these two opposing powers, the early settlers had up to that time quiet possession, and there also different tribes of Indians were then swarming. This sad condition of affairs caused those settlers long and great distress. In time of war the proverb, "might makes right," often finds application. France, particularly, having a valuable fur trade with the Indians, stirred them up against the settlers who were loyal to England. In the minutes of the Pennsylvania German Society, Vol. 12, page 437, is a quotation from Rev. Dr. Muehlenberg, that France rewarded the Indians with £10 (\$50 in our money) for every scalp of an English subject they secured.

In a work published by the State of Pennsylvania in 1895, (Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, 2 Vols.) the first part, written by Hon. Richards, of Reading, Pa., descriptions are found of "The Indian Forts of the Blue Mountains;" and concern-

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after their horrible work had been completed, long before the alarm could be spread and the most active troops overtake them."

These Indians, in hunting and fishing, freely and without disturbance roamed over the whole country and were thus well acquainted in every nook and corner. The settlers might at times engage in similar pursuit of game, but as a rule had other work to do.

Such a party of Indians, on September 15, 1757, attacked the Keller family and led captive the mother and her sons, Joseph (II, 7) and John Jacob, (II, 9) to Montreal, Canada, after having killed and scalped Christian (II, 1). Father Keller was at the time engaged with his team in seeding, and so far from his house, that he was not aware of the raid until his return in the evening. The bloody body of his son (14 years old) found in a field at a distance from the house gave some light on the horrible event. Evidently that oldest son would also have been taken alive, but being fleet of foot, could not be captured. The probability is, that he first endeavored to hide in or behind the barn, and when that would not answer, ran across the field in the direction of Laurel Hill (Bucks-Berg) along the creek. This hill was covered thickly with evergreens—laurel, spruce, etc.—the only natural hiding place near. The Indian in pursuit of him, fearing that the neighborhood might be alarmed, shot and killed him with an arrow, then took his scalp as a trophy. Below at the roadside, a little south of a small stream of

ing these troubles with the Indians, he gives the following brief, yet comprehensive, statements:

"It is sufficient to say that, as they (the Indians) daily saw themselves pushed back by the onward march of the white man, their hunting grounds teeming with game, and streams filled with fish, lost to them, either through fair purchase or more likely fraudulent action on the part of the settlers, it needed but a spark to fire the savage nature in their breasts and create a flame which blood alone could extinguish. That spark came from the field of Braddock's defeat in 1755, and, in its train, there swarmed amongst the frontier settlements of the Province hundreds of scalping parties, carrying death and destruction with them everywhere, whose work did not finally cease until the year 1783. At this time the Blue Mountains practically marked the limit of actual settlement on the part of the white men, and it was along this range that the storm burst in all its fury. Standing as it did on the verge of civilization and forming in itself a natural barrier, it was but in accordance with reason to occupy it for the purpose of defense and to there stay the further encroachment of the enemy. It is well here to bear in mind the fact that the attacks and depredations of the Indians were not made by large bodies or any number combined, neither were the tactics of civilized warfare followed; but parties of from three to ten or twenty would creep noiselessly past alert and watchful sentries and suddenly fall upon their unsuspecting victims and just as suddenly disappear

## HISTORY OF THE KELLER FAMILY 29

water, his body is said to be buried. Simon (II, 5) was keeping the wild pigeons away from some ground already sown, and thus escaped. How Anna Margaret (II, 2) (twelve and one-half years old) escaped is not known. The Lord had pity and spared her to comfort and assist especially the little brother (II, 10) left in the cradle, not yet one-half year old.

The captives were hurried away along and across the mountain. The Indians kindled a fire the same night, the air being cold. The mother had the agony of seeing the scalp (which she recognized) of her first-born being dried by the fire. Montreal, Canada was the point aimed at fully three hundred miles away. The mother was bartered off to some French officers whom as a captive she served three years, yet was always treated with respect and kindness. This whole raid was undoubtedly planned; and if the Indians were hired to bring just such a German woman to attend to such service, could any one be surprised?

John Jacob, 3 years and 2 months old, was lost. Of Joseph, account will be given later.

What each member of this once happy family, and especially the mother, had to suffer in those three years, tongue cannot tell nor pen describe. Those who can mentally in some measure enter the situation, may draw their own sad picture!



## CHAPTER VII

### LOSS AND GAIN

THE tragic events in the Keller Family naturally aroused the whole community to a deep sense of insecurity. Prompted by this feeling, the "Teed Blockhouse," about one and one-half mile southward, was erected without delay, where the settlers, old and young, gathered in the evening for safety during the night. (Frontier Forts, Vol. 1, Page 240.)

For three long years the motto, "What is home without a mother?" must have been most painfully realized by those left of the Keller Family. A deep solitude and sadness, like a pall, rested over those smitten hearts.

Equally, and possibly more forsaken, must have been the mother in her captivity. How many anxious questions, by day and especially by night, must have harassed her sad heart—"Where are those left behind, and how do they fare, my poor boys among the Indians, and my dear babe at home?" And to all her questions—no response, a silent grave, not so painfully silent as such uncertainty—to be tossed about amidst hopes and fears! Finally, the English gained telling victories over the French in Canada. The fortified city of Montreal, although surrounded by high walls, a ditch eight feet deep, and all placed under the special protection of the Virgin Mary, could not withstand

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them. With the aid of the God of Abraham, the English under General Wolfe stormed the "Heights of Abraham", took the city of Quebec, and cooped up the French Commander Vandranil in Montreal. On September 6, 1760, nearly ten thousand British troops advanced against the city, and two days later it was taken. The prisoners of war kept there were at once discharged. The iron cage was broken, and the birds put to their wings to find their homes again.

At that time, the settlers of Northampton County, Pa., aided by their own teams, did their trading in the city of Philadelphia though fully seventy miles away. It once thus so happened that Father Keller was on his way to market with a load of grain, and, by accident, heard of the returning prisoners of war. A new hope kindled in his soul; he could not continue his journey; but unhitching his team, he hastened his return on horseback. As the good Lord had willed, his wife, well preserved, had reached home sooner than he himself. What such a meeting was (October 20, 1760) can never be told.

Five years later Joseph also effected a safe return from his Indian captivity. More than two years after the mother's return, another child (II, 11) was added to the family. About this time, Anna Margaret, the only daughter, was married to a Mr. Miller (II, 3), who later served as a captain under Gen. George Washington. The young family was blessed with a daughter Elizabeth (III, 1), but mother and daughter died during the war, and

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Captain Miller informed of the sad news never returned.

During the Revolutionary War, Joseph also (II, 7) served in the army—a so-called "Seven Months Man".

Taking all these things into consideration, we can easily see that their cup was often one of sorrow. The deep wounds, smitten by the Indian raid, could heal over, but, like the wounds in the heart-wood of a tree, could never heal out.

## CHAPTER VIII

### QUIET AFTERNOON AND EVENING

THE long life of Father Keller may be divided into two parts, as every day is divided. The first part was restless and often miserable, the second quiet and happy. It may be compared to the famous River Rhine—almost eight hundred miles in length—rolling, tossing and tumbling down the Mountains of Grisons in Switzerland; then quietly and majestically moving forward in its deep channel through the Netherlands to the North Sea. He lived in his own house, by the side of the never-failing spring of pure water. The terrors of the seven-year French and Indian War passed over—the seven-year Revolutionary War shook the colonies from center to circumference, but it also passed away. Whatever clouds darkened the horizon, the sun finally, because of that darkness, shone forth with increased splendor.

At that time the Plainfield Reformed Congregation (not yet union) was organized, and the first church erected. There the family found a spiritual home, and were permitted to share the rich comforts of Christian fellowship in the means of grace.

About that time, likely, a second dwelling house was built only a few rods to the north of the present (fourth) house, built by the late Mr. Reichard. Seventy years ago, I often saw the old cellar,

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then only partially filled up. North of that some rods farther, all in line with the spring, stood the low double log barn, also built long before, as its decay testified. The higher land was cleared by degrees and brought under cultivation and the lower was turned into meadows. Fruit of all kinds was planted or merely allowed to grow in the virgin soil, and rewarded abundantly the labor bestowed.

Philip, the youngest, grew to manhood, and proved himself in all respects a tower of strength, a comfort and support to his parents in their old age. The fact, that so little information has come down to us, shows how quietly the last days of our great-grandparents ebbed away. (He died September 17, 1800, and she, April 22, 1802.) Although she was just half a year older than he, she nevertheless outlived him more than a year and a half. Close by the Church their earthly remains rest side by side awaiting the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and the great Resurrection. His age was 81 years, 6 months and 2 days; her age, 83 years, 7 months and 7 days.

( NOTE ★ REFERS TO JOSEPH I, 1 & MARY I, 2)

When more than twenty years of age, she found a lover, a Mr. Miller, and in him a husband. She was blessed with a child Elizabeth. Whence her husband was we are not told, but as he became (according to tradition) a captain under General George Washington in the Revolutionary War, he must have been a man of mind and will power. It is but natural to think of the young wife with a young child bidding farewell to her brave husband —alas! a long last earthly farewell! She died and her child also; and hearing the news, the sad husband never returned. The grave of the mother in the Plainfield Graveyard is marked with a sandstone. All inscription disappeared long ago, but a hole drilled in its top and run full of lead where once a crown was fastened, indicating a crown in heaven, marks the grave without a doubt. I looked for a little grave and stone by its side, but—there is none. May it be that the mother died first, and little Elizabeth was put to rest, as it were, on her bosom?

Henry Adam (3<sup>1</sup>), born January 1, 1747, was the second son and the third child in the family. At the time of the raid, he was 10 years, 8 months and 14 days old, and how he escaped we know not. Simon at the time is said to have been away at a newly sown field guarding it against the ravages of wild pigeons—he may have been with him—he may have been with Christian and Anna Margaret in the barn—or he may have been with his father. The traditional record we have is, "He was a very vigorous young man and died young." When

## CHAPTER IX

## SOME OF THE OLDER JOSEPH KELLER CHILDREN

CHRISTIAN (1<sup>1</sup>) was the firstborn of our family on this Western Continent. He was a lad just fourteen years and five days old when he was shot with the arrow of an Indian, killed and scalped. It was a bloody and sad sacrifice. The family, so hopefully commenced, seemed destined almost to destruction by this blow; and yet—it lived! It is a comfort to think that his sufferings were short—like a flash of lightning, the swift arrow too well aimed by the skill of a savage speedily did its sad work. As among the Israelites, the first-born was accounted holy unto the Lord, so here too this Christian Keller was taken away, and his soul carried to the "firstborn" whose names are written in Heaven.

Anna Margaret (2<sup>1</sup>), born March 15, 1745, was just twelve and one-half years old when the Indian raid was made. She was evidently hidden in some dark corner of the barn at the time and escaped unharmed. Her part it was, afterwards especially, to care for the infant brother, and (in some very limited measure) to take the place of the captive mother. What great comfort she, the only daughter in the family, must have been to those who remained! After three long years the mother returned to the stricken household, and the daughter, grown up to womanhood, was undoubtedly greatly comforted.

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he died, or how, we cannot tell. His body evidently is buried at the Plainfield Church; but there is no stone indicating his place of rest, unless it be one without inscription.

Simon (4<sup>1</sup>) was born October 29, 1749, at the time of the Indian raid, therefore he was a little less than 8 years old. He was then, at the request of his father, engaged in chasing the wild pigeons from a sown field, and thus escaped the attacking Indians.

Of his subsequent life, we have very little information, and that by tradition. He married a nee Dipper, from near Philadelphia, and had three children:

1<sup>2</sup> Joseph.

2<sup>2</sup> Maria Ann.

3<sup>2</sup> Magdalene.

He lived to an old age, and had his last home with his son-in-law, George Mifflin, about two miles above Johnsonville, Pa. He now and then visited my parents in my childhood—came afoot, and left again the same day. He was not as tall as my grand-father, Philip Keller, but was also of heavy build. He is evidently buried at Centerville, Pa., but his grave is no longer known. His only son Joseph (III, 2) was unfortunate in marriage and disappeared; and Magdalene (III, 4) fared much the same way; but Maria Ann (III, 3) was the mother of a large family.



## CHAPTER X

## THE MARIA ANN KELLER FAMILY

III, 3

<sup>2</sup> Maria Ann Keller, mar. George Muffly, d. 1847, in her 93d year, after having been blind for years.

<sup>1</sup> Jacob, b. Nov. 22, 1801, d. Mar. 28, 1860.

<sup>2</sup> George.

<sup>3</sup> Philip.

<sup>4</sup> Charles, b. Dec. 24, 1813, d. Jan. 23, 1903.

<sup>5</sup> Simon.

<sup>6</sup> Elizabeth.

<sup>7</sup> Mary.

<sup>8</sup> Sarah, b. 1810, d. 1893.

<sup>9</sup> Susan.

<sup>10</sup> Anna Maria.

<sup>1</sup> Jacob, mar. Elizabeth Weidner.

<sup>1</sup> mar. John Oyer.

<sup>2</sup> mar. Jacob Batto.

<sup>2</sup> George, mar. Elizabeth Reichard.

<sup>1</sup> Maria, mar. Jessiah Beck.

<sup>2</sup> Sally Ann, mar. William Getz.

<sup>3</sup> Philip, d. unmarried.

<sup>4</sup> Charles, mar. Kate Shook.

<sup>1</sup> Mary Ann, mar. Daniel Getz. Have children.

<sup>2</sup> Lowine, mar. a Mr. Lohman. 1 son.

<sup>3</sup> Susan, b. 1810, mar. Samuel McCammon, b. 1872, d. 1895.

<sup>1</sup> Anna Maria, b. 1836, d. 1876, mar. William Klein.

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<sup>4</sup> Sarah, mar. James McCammon.

<sup>5</sup> Peter, mar. *nee* Fell. 1 son, 2 dau.

<sup>6</sup> Morris, mar. *nee* Labar. 1 dau.

<sup>5</sup> Simon, mar. Kate Ratzel.

<sup>1</sup> Jacob, mar. Matilda Abel.

<sup>1</sup> Simon.

<sup>2</sup> Aaron.

<sup>3</sup> Jacob.

<sup>4</sup> Lewis.

<sup>5</sup> Sarah.

<sup>6</sup> Ellen, moved to Straubville, N. Dak.

<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth, b. Oct. 27, 1845, mar. Aaron Gum, b. June 11, 1839.

<sup>1</sup> James E., b. Dec. 3, 1863, mar. Lucinda Achenbach, b. Mar. 21, 1865.

<sup>1</sup> Hattie, b. Mar. 25, 1884.

<sup>2</sup> Hannah, b. Dec. 31, 1886.

<sup>3</sup> Eugene, b. Jan. 12, 1890.

<sup>4</sup> Minnie, b. Oct. 31, 1893.

<sup>2</sup> Annie K., mar. John Scheetz, b. Oct. 27, 1863.

<sup>1</sup> Mabel, b. July 17, 1890.

<sup>3</sup> Katie, mar. Theodore Flory, b. Mar. 15, 1863.

<sup>1</sup> Edna, b. May 27, 1887.

<sup>2</sup> Annie, b. Aug. 8, 1888.

<sup>3</sup> Carrie, b. Apr. 1, 1890.

<sup>4</sup> Charles, b. Mar. 6, 1892.

<sup>5</sup> Clifford, b. Dec. 16, 1894.

<sup>6</sup> Wilmer, b. July 9, 1901.

<sup>4</sup> Mary, d. Dec. 11, 1875, aged about 2 years.

<sup>1</sup> Emma Frances, d. 1902, mar. Jeremiah F. Hahn.

<sup>1</sup> Anna.

<sup>2</sup> Bertha.

<sup>2</sup> Florence R., mar. Abr. Hartzell.

<sup>3</sup> Elmier J., mar. *nee* Byshier.

<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth, mar. Reuben Houck.

<sup>1</sup> Sarah Alice, mar. George E. Messinger.

<sup>2</sup> W. Oliver, mar. Jennie Stocker.

<sup>1</sup> Lizzie.

<sup>2</sup> Arlington.

<sup>3</sup> Lester.

<sup>4</sup> Russel, d.

<sup>3</sup> Edwin J., mar. Mary Schoch.

<sup>1</sup> Karl.

<sup>3</sup> John, b. 1840, mar. Elmira E. Dech, d. 1884.

<sup>1</sup> Lizzie G., b. 1874, mar. H. P. Brown.

<sup>2</sup> S. Caroline.

<sup>4</sup> Aaron, b. 1843, mar. Clara V. Reich.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel, d. 1874.

<sup>5</sup> Lucy A., mar. Alfred Hahn.

<sup>1</sup> Richard Sam'l, mar. Ida Siegfried.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel.

<sup>2</sup> Lucy.

<sup>2</sup> Frederick, mar. Minnie S. Achenbach.

<sup>1</sup> Clark.

<sup>2</sup> Annie.

<sup>3</sup> Robert C., d. 1900.

<sup>6</sup> Caroline.

<sup>5</sup> Ella, b. Nov. 20, 1872, mar. Willis Alsover, b. Nov. 20, 1872.

<sup>1</sup> Lucy, b. June 25, 1892.

<sup>6</sup> Irwin, mar. Lilly Keiper, b. Aug. 17, '73.

<sup>1</sup> Lewis, b. Apr. 5, 1899.

<sup>2</sup> Mabel, b. July 4, 1900.

<sup>7</sup> Charles, mar. Annie Itterly, b. Oct. 11, 1876.

<sup>1</sup> Raymond, b. Mar. 28, 1897.

<sup>2</sup> Myrtle, b. Nov. 16, 1898.

<sup>3</sup> Dorothy, b. Mar. 20, 1902.

<sup>8</sup> Lucy E., mar. Elmer Werkheiser, b. April 29, 1877.

<sup>1</sup> Willis, b. Feb. 13, 1897.

<sup>3</sup> John Louis, mar. Frances Mann.

<sup>1</sup> Frank, mar. Lizzie Maue.

<sup>2</sup> Callie, mar. Frank Chinane. 2 children.

<sup>3</sup> Birdie, b. April 2, 1850.

<sup>4</sup> Mary Edith, mar. Marcus Strauss, b. Oct. 22, 1845.

<sup>1</sup> July Ann, b. Jan. 29, 1870, mar. Charles Werkheiser.

<sup>1</sup> Cora.

<sup>2</sup> Agnes, d.

<sup>3</sup> Flanncy.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Adison, b. Jan. 25, 1872, mar. Minnie Edinger.

<sup>3</sup> Pauline, b. Jan. 7, 1873, mar. Michael Moser.

<sup>4</sup> Louis, b. Feb. 24, 1876, d. 9 years old.

<sup>5</sup> Mary Ellie, b. Feb. 14, 1878, mar. Edward Jones.



- 1<sup>st</sup> Aulef.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Mildred, b. July 4, 1899.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Callie, b. July 8, 1881.  
 7<sup>th</sup> Amy, b. Nov. 15, 1882.  
 8<sup>th</sup> Katie, b. Jan. 29, 1885, mar. Joseph Repsher.  
 9<sup>th</sup> Maggy, b. Sept. 4, 1887.  
 10<sup>th</sup> Eli, b. Dec. 4, 1890.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Peter, moved to Etna, Minn., 1 son died, 7 dau. lived.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Margaret M., mar. Julius Wilhelm, 2 children d., 4 sons and 1 dau. live in Bangor, Pa.  
 7<sup>th</sup> Katie Maria, b. Jan. 9, 1861, mar. Benjamin Repsher.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Rose Ellen, b. July 23, 1879, mar. John Doney.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Edith Agnes, b. Aug. 24, 1881.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Charles Alvin, b. Mar. 25, 1883.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Emma Frances, b. Aug. 24, 1885.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Ammon N., b. June 26, 1893.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Minnie Cath., b. April 4, 1895.  
 8<sup>th</sup> Charles, mar. Anna Butz. Have 3 dau., live in Bangor, Pa.  
 9<sup>th</sup> Wm. Henry, mar. Ellen Labar. Have 1 son, 3 dau., 2 dead.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth, mar. Jacob Zuber.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Charles, d.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Simon, d.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Philip. Had two children.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth, mar. Hugh Ralston.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Absene, mar. Edward Heller, d.  
 7<sup>th</sup> Mary, mar. Charles Kaufmann.

- 4<sup>th</sup> Jonathan, mar. Cath. Kuntzman.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Charles.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Emma.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Ida.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Sarah.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Samuel.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Frank.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth, mar. (first) Jacob Ruth, d. July 2, 1881, aged 55.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Charles, b. Dec. 27, 1853, mar. Sybilla Wilhelm.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Edward, mar. Annie Christine. 1 dau., d.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> William.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Benjamin.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Cath., b. Dec. 24, 1855, mar. David Wilhelm.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lizzie.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Emma.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Jacob. Lives at E. Bangor, Pa.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Raymond.  
 5<sup>th</sup> John.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sarah Ann, b. Sept. 14, 1857, mar. William Eldridge.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Martin, mar. nee Rample.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Ida, mar. Isaac Thatcher. 2 dau.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Harry.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Mahlon.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Lizzie.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Mamie.  
 7<sup>th</sup> Harvey.  
 Live at Wind Gap, Pa.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel, mar. Sarah Kunsman.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth, mar. Peter Reimer. Have 4 sons and 1 dau.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Catharine, mar. Peter Kressler.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lula.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Clara.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> George, mar. Sarah Weidman.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Adam, mar. Mary Fell. Have 2 sons and 1 dau.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> John, mar. nee Reimel. Have 2 sons and 2 dau.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Caroline, mar. (first) Charles Rotzel. Have 1 son and 1 dau.  
 Mar. (second) Robert Rotzel.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Edward.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Stella.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Edith.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Maria, mar. Elmer Labar. Have 2 sons and 2 dau.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Charles, lives in Bangor, Pa.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Jessie, d.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> William, mar. (first) Sobina Ruth.  
 1<sup>st</sup> John, two dau.  
 Mar. (second) Sarah Wolff.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Clara.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Jennie.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> William.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Charles.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Oliver.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Elsie.  
 7<sup>th</sup> Martha.  
 Moved to Frankfort, Kan.

- 4<sup>th</sup> Benjamin, b. Sept. 12, 1859, mar. Rebecca Steinmetz.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Carrie, mar. Marvine Reph.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Rosie.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Archie.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Lotty.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Samuel, b. Oct. 13, 1861, mar. Annie Weidman.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Floyd.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Luther.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sadie.  
 Live at Bangor, Pa.  
 6<sup>th</sup> Frank, b. July 8, 1864, mar. Mary J. Kleintop.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Raymond.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Mabel.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Sarah.  
 Live at Penargyl, Pa.  
 7<sup>th</sup> Adaline, b. March 29, 1867, mar. Roger Smith.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Clinton.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Martin.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Louis.  
 Live at Smith Gap, Pa.  
 8<sup>th</sup> Reuben, b. Sept. 16, 1869, mar. Ella Roth.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Clarence.  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Lilly.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Martin.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Gertrude.  
 5<sup>th</sup> Cula.



- 9<sup>1</sup> Joseph, b. Jan. 23, 1872, d. aged 14 yrs.  
 10<sup>1</sup> Jacob, b. Sept. 20, 1873. At home with mother at Penargyl, Pa.
- 5<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth, mar. (second) Christian Kemmerer of Würtemberg, Germany; d. Oct. 17, 1901, aged 45 yrs., 3 mos., 3 days.
- 8<sup>2</sup> Sarah, mar. George Eckert.
- 1<sup>30</sup> Katy Ann, mar. John Slack, b. April 25, 1840, d. Sept. 12, 1893.
- 1<sup>31</sup> George, b. July 30, 1859, mar. Amanda Syder.
- 1<sup>32</sup> John.
  - 2<sup>32</sup> Flora.
  - 3<sup>32</sup> Leah.
  - 4<sup>32</sup> Earl.
  - 5<sup>32</sup> Hazel.
  - 6<sup>32</sup> Beula.
  - 7<sup>32</sup> Russel.
- 2<sup>31</sup> Elsic, b. Sept. 15, 1867, mar. Theodore Kiefer.
- 1<sup>33</sup> Sarah, mar. Reuben Fritz. 2 sons, 2 dau.
- 2<sup>33</sup> Alice, mar. Judson Datesman. 1 son, 2 dau.
- 2<sup>34</sup> John, mar. and was lost among the Indians in the West.
- 3<sup>35</sup> Hyrem, d. in Va. during the Rebellion.
- 4<sup>36</sup> Abraham, d., had been mar. to *nee* Gruber.
- 5<sup>36</sup> Frank, mar. *nee* Seiple. 1 dau. in Bangor—mother in Norristown, Pa.
- 6<sup>36</sup> Malinda, mar. Obadiah Oyer. 2 sons, 3 dau.

## CHAPTER XI

### WITH INDIANS, IN REVOLUTION, AT HOME

**J**OSEPH (II, 7) was born January 15, 1751. Therefore, at the time of the raid, he was exactly five years and eight months old. With his mother and younger brother, he was taken to Montreal, Lower Canada, by the Indians. How he stood the long journey of about three hundred miles, of which the mother had complained, we are not told. According to the most reliable information handed down traditionally in his own family, he was among the Indians eight years. What a life he then led—its pleasures and sorrows can only be imagined. It is reported that the daughter of an Indian Chief, having lost her brother by death, asked and obtained from her father our Joseph, whom she wished to take the place of her lost brother. Such stories are easily made where the material is at hand, and just as easily believed. It is true that he did not wish to come back when directed by British authority to do so. The main reason was, that he had the promise of receiving a rifle in the near future, whilst up to that time he had to be contented with the bow and arrow, in the use of which, however, he had acquired great skill. It is reported that he would hide in the bushes, and mimic the voices of various birds, enticing them at will into reach, and then shoot them down. Thus, once after his return, he called from a distance to

- 7<sup>30</sup> Frances E., mar. Theodore Lockert. 3 dau. Live in E. Stroudsburg.
- 9<sup>3</sup> Susan, mar. John McCammon. Had 2 sons, one mar. Susan Muffly, and have 3 children.
- 10<sup>3</sup> Anna Maria, mar. (first) Charles Kaufman. Mar. (second) John Kuntzman, d. Jan. 20, 1868, aged 64 years, 1 month and 17 days.

a friend, asking to be allowed to shoot an arrow at him. The one thus requested, thinking himself safe by reason of the great distance, granted the request. Scarcely was the word said, when the arrow from the bow whirred past him—terribly near. The man shot at always believed that the young Keller shot exactly where he had kindly aimed.

At the time of the Revolutionary War, being some twenty years of age, our Joseph Keller enlisted as a so-called "Seven-Month Man," but how long he was in the service of the Colonies is not known.

In due time, he returned to the Old Home, evidently tired of Indian-life, and also of war as well. He looked about him for a partner for life, and found such a one near by in the person of Maria Magdalene Andre (II, 8), daughter of Leonard Andre. Looking for a home of their own, they crossed the Blue Mountain to Cherry Valley, where, likely as Indian captives, he, with mother and brother, had spent the first night after their capture. The place they selected is most romantic—mountains on two sides, and a famous Trout-stream, "Cherry Valley Creek," making its own soothing music day and night as it hastens toward the Delaware Water Gap.

Joseph Keller, Jr., passed the eighty-first milestone of his earthly pilgrimage. On a beautiful knoll near the creek, are the graves of these ancestors. The grave-stones, inscriptions, and all are well preserved. I had the pleasure of visiting the sacred spot, where I found but three graves.



## CHAPTER XII

### THE JOSEPH KELLER, JR., FAMILY

Joseph Keller, Jr. (II, 7), b. Jan. 15, 1751, d. Apr. 15, 1832, mar. Maria Magdalene Andre, b. June 15, 1785, d. Sept. 6, 1831.

1<sup>st</sup> Adam. (SHOULD BE 1758)

2<sup>nd</sup> Leonard.

3<sup>rd</sup> Joseph.

4<sup>th</sup> Jacob.

5<sup>th</sup> John.

6<sup>th</sup> Peter, b. Aug. 26, 1794, d. Sept. 20, 1878.

7<sup>th</sup> Henry.

8<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth.

9<sup>th</sup> Mary, b. 1785, d. 1825.

10<sup>th</sup> Sarah.

11<sup>th</sup> George, b. Jan. 15, 1797, d. Feb. 3, 1871.

1<sup>st</sup> Adam, mar. Elizabeth Fisher. Moved first to Upper Mt. Bethel township, where two of their children died.

1<sup>st</sup> Adam, b. Nov. 26, 1817, d. Sept. 2, 1823.

2<sup>nd</sup> Louise, b. Apr. 1, 1821, d. Nov. 25, 1839.

Moved later to Mifflinburg on the Susquehanna, and died there.

2<sup>nd</sup> Leonard, was by trade a blacksmith, mar., had children, and d.

3<sup>rd</sup> Joseph, mar. (first) a nee Riegel and had children; (second) an English lady, and had many more children. Moved near Wilkes Barre; later farther west.

4<sup>th</sup> Jacob, mar. Nancy Dennis. Has many children. Lives in Briar Creek Valley, Columbia, Co., Pa. (50)

52)

1<sup>st</sup> William Harrison, b. Jan. 3, 1888.

2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon K., b. Nov. 26, 1890.

3<sup>rd</sup> Elizabeth Minnette, b. Oct. 9, 1892.

4<sup>th</sup> Leah Jean, b. Aug. 9, 1896.

2<sup>nd</sup> John, mar. Sarah L. McCreary, b. July 31, 1846.

1<sup>st</sup> A dau. d.

2<sup>nd</sup> Eva L., b. Feb. 9, 1870, mar. Jesse C. Frost.

5<sup>th</sup> Sarah, mar. James A. Welsh.

1<sup>st</sup> Leona Mildred, b. Mar. 1, 1870.

2<sup>nd</sup> Cuba Lell, b. Dec. 3, 1871.

3<sup>rd</sup> Bartah May, b. July 9, 1874, d. Sept. 27, 1876.

4<sup>th</sup> Leafy Ellen, b. Aug. 14, 1876.

5<sup>th</sup> Ward Kenneth, b. Mar. 23, 1888.

6<sup>th</sup> Nancy, mar. Samuel Newton Kieffer, b. July 15, 1842.

1<sup>st</sup> Elmer Edson, b. Oct. 21, 1867.

2<sup>nd</sup> Martha Idell, mar. Elsworth Jump. 1<sup>st</sup> Floyd.

3<sup>rd</sup> Charles Wilbur, b. Jan. 10, 1872, mar. Esta L. Lehman, b. Oct. 10, '75.

1<sup>st</sup> Ward Keller, b. May 9, 1896.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bernice L., b. July 25, 1897.

4<sup>th</sup> Eva b. and d. June 23, 1874.

5<sup>th</sup> Esther, " " "

7<sup>th</sup> Elias, mar. Magdalene Schauwecker, b. Oct. 26, 1856.

↑  
BELIEVED  
MARRIED  
ABOUT 1778

5<sup>th</sup> John, mar. Mary Johnson.

1<sup>st</sup> Philip, moved west, location unknown. (51)

2<sup>nd</sup> Betsey, moved west, location unknown.

3<sup>rd</sup> Henry.

4<sup>th</sup> Sarah.

5<sup>th</sup> Lucy.

6<sup>th</sup> Joseph.

7<sup>th</sup> John.

8<sup>th</sup> William.

9<sup>th</sup> Mary.

3<sup>rd</sup> Henry, b. Feb. 25, 1816, d. June 1, '99, mar. (first)

Maria Geib, b. Nov. 8, 1811, d. May 5, 1873.

1<sup>st</sup> Hettie, b. July 5, 1837, in Ashland, O.

2<sup>nd</sup> John, b. April 3, 1843, in Ashland, O.

3<sup>rd</sup> Christopher, b. Oct. 8, 1844, d. Mar. 8, 1845.

4<sup>th</sup> Mary, b. Jan. 17, 1846, d. July 13, 1846.

5<sup>th</sup> Sarah, b. July 13, 1847.

6<sup>th</sup> Nancy, b. June 26, 1849.

7<sup>th</sup> Elias, b. May 25, 1852.

3<sup>rd</sup> Henry, mar. (second) Mary Baker.

8<sup>th</sup> William, b. Sept. 20, 1876.

1<sup>st</sup> Hettie, mar. Walker V. Fagan, b. Nov. 3, 1836.

1<sup>st</sup> Henry, b. Sept. 16, 1859, mar. Flora E. Brown, d. Aug. 9, 1901.

2<sup>nd</sup> Aceph S., b. Dec. 23, 1861.

3<sup>rd</sup> Kate Ina, b. Sept. 3, 1866.

4<sup>th</sup> Amanda Lotitia, b. Nov. 23, '68, d. Jan. 2, '91.

5<sup>th</sup> Celia Minnette, b. Oct. 25, 1871.

2<sup>nd</sup> Aceph S., mar. Emma Hagerman.

1<sup>st</sup> Edward C., b. Oct. 11, 1883, d. Nov. 23, '96.

2<sup>nd</sup> Russell L., b. July 30, 1887.

3<sup>rd</sup> Kate Ina, mar. J. A. VanGundy, b. Feb. 18, 1851.

1<sup>st</sup> Waldo J., b. June 28, 1877, mar. (53) Grace D. Downing.

1<sup>st</sup> Donald D., b. Oct. 12, 1904.

2<sup>nd</sup> Cleo T., b. Feb. 25, 1884, d. Jan. 24, 1887.

3<sup>rd</sup> Russell G., b. Apr. 28, 1888.

8<sup>th</sup> William, mar. Salome Heft, b. June 18, 1868.

1<sup>st</sup> Claris F., b. July 14, 1901.

2<sup>nd</sup> Emma Ruth.

4<sup>th</sup> Sarah, d., mar. John Smalley, d.

1<sup>st</sup> Amanda, mar. Hezekiah Butcher.

1<sup>st</sup> Jennie.

2<sup>nd</sup> John Keller, mar. Sophia ——.

1<sup>st</sup> Sadie, d.

2<sup>nd</sup> Harry.

3<sup>nd</sup> Bessie.

3<sup>rd</sup> Priscilla, d.

1<sup>st</sup> Lulu, mar. John Bonen.

2<sup>nd</sup> Minnie, mar. George Cheeseman.

4<sup>th</sup> Isaac, d., mar. Ella Ellis, d.

5<sup>th</sup> Franklin Pierce, mar. Hannah Larcomb.

1<sup>st</sup> Fay.

6<sup>th</sup> Charles Leroy, mar. Emma Richard.

1<sup>st</sup> Flo.

5<sup>th</sup> Lucy, mar. Isaac Neff.

1<sup>st</sup> Ibbie.

2<sup>nd</sup> Loren.

3<sup>rd</sup> Justus.

4<sup>th</sup> John.

5<sup>th</sup> Christian.

6<sup>th</sup> Oscar.



7<sup>th</sup> Rella.  
8<sup>th</sup> Hattie.  
9<sup>th</sup> Ida, d.

6<sup>th</sup> Joseph, was a soldier in the Mexican and Civil Wars, was not married.

7<sup>th</sup> John, mar. Maria Wertman.

1<sup>st</sup> Orlando W., mar. Kate Ely.

1<sup>st</sup> Callie M., mar. Charles Michael.

2<sup>nd</sup> Grace.

3<sup>rd</sup> Martin.

4<sup>th</sup> Mattie.

5<sup>th</sup> Harry.

6<sup>th</sup> Milo.

7<sup>th</sup> Thomas.

2<sup>nd</sup> John, mar. Matilda Marietta.

1<sup>st</sup> Abbie, mar.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bessie.

3<sup>rd</sup> Rhca.

4<sup>th</sup> Cuba.

3<sup>rd</sup> George, mar. Jennie ——.

4<sup>th</sup> William, mar. Eliza Beekly.

9<sup>th</sup> Mary, mar. Daniel Wertman.

1<sup>st</sup> Perry Sylvester.

2<sup>nd</sup> Ida S.

3<sup>rd</sup> Hattie L.

4<sup>th</sup> Augusta A.

5<sup>th</sup> Lorelda M.

6<sup>th</sup> Jennie B.

1<sup>st</sup> Perry Sylvester, mar. Belle Simanton.

1<sup>st</sup> Daniel V., mar. Ilda Richard.

1<sup>st</sup> Mary Belle.

2<sup>nd</sup> Edna O., mar. Levi Harper.

3<sup>rd</sup> Catharine, b. 1822, mar. Thomas W. Rhodes.

1<sup>st</sup> Stewart T., b. June 3, 1854, mar. Annie Thomson.

1<sup>st</sup> Millard F., b. May 5, 1886, mar. Carrie Martin.

1<sup>st</sup> Stella, b. Aug. 28, 1898.

2<sup>nd</sup> Merl, b. April 10, 1901.

2<sup>nd</sup> Nellie, b. Aug. 9, 1888, mar. John Rex.

3<sup>rd</sup> Minnie, b. June 20, 1889, mar. George Dunning, Sr.

1<sup>st</sup> George, Jr.

2<sup>nd</sup> Oswin.

3<sup>rd</sup> Th. W., b. May 1, 1882.

4<sup>th</sup> Irwin G., b. Aug. 29, 1854.

5<sup>th</sup> Mary M., b. April 9, 1860, mar. Jacob Swink.

6<sup>th</sup> Jennie, b. April 9, 1860, mar. James Peacock.

1<sup>st</sup> Claud.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lewis.

4<sup>th</sup> Daniel, mar. Cath. Jane Drake, b. April 20, 1828, d. Mar. 27, 1861.

1<sup>st</sup> Morris Keller.

2<sup>nd</sup> Luther Keller.

Scranton, Pa.

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs. Simon Besaker.

4<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Horace Decker.

E. Stroudsburg, Pa.

5<sup>th</sup> Charles, mar. Lavine Smith, b. Feb. 7, 1827, d. June 22, 1897.

1<sup>st</sup> Ella, b. Feb. 28, 1853.

6<sup>th</sup> Peter, mar. Elizabeth Heller, b. Oct. 19, 1798, d. Nov. 23, 1886.

1<sup>st</sup> John, b. Oct. 11, 1818, d. April 3, 1886.

2<sup>nd</sup> Susan, b. Jan. 2, 1821, d. Mar. 2, 1883.

3<sup>rd</sup> Catharine, b. 1823.

4<sup>th</sup> Daniel, b. April, 1825, d. Feb. 8, 1904.

5<sup>th</sup> Charles, b. April 20, 1827.

6<sup>th</sup> Mary Ann, b. Nov. 29, 1829.

7<sup>th</sup> Joseph J., b. Oct. 18, 1832, d. Dec. 11, 1871.

8<sup>th</sup> Lewis, b. 1833, d. Sept. 11, 1903.

9<sup>th</sup> Louise, " "

10<sup>th</sup> Sarah, b. 1835.

11<sup>th</sup> William, b. 1837.

12<sup>th</sup> Theodore, " "

2<sup>nd</sup> Frank, b. June 21, 1855, d. June 21, 1857.

3<sup>rd</sup> Mary E., b. Oct. 22, 1857.

4<sup>th</sup> Emma, b. Nov. 25, 1858, mar. William Reid.

5<sup>th</sup> Davie, b. Mar. 15, 1861.

6<sup>th</sup> Christian, b. Mar. 11, 1864.

7<sup>th</sup> Angeline, b. Mar. 18, 1866.

8<sup>th</sup> Ernest, b. May 10, 1868.

9<sup>th</sup> Thomas, b. June 26, 1870.

3<sup>rd</sup> Mary E., mar. Warren Nyce, b. Nov. 10, 1855, d. Apr. 13, 1892.

1<sup>st</sup> Anna L., b. Sept. 5, 1879, mar. John C. Hinton.

2<sup>nd</sup> Charles E., b. Oct. 8, 1881.

3<sup>rd</sup> Lester David, b. Sept. 4, 1888.

5<sup>th</sup> Davie, mar. Valeria Nickelson, b. June 16, 1863.

1<sup>st</sup> Oscar N., b. Dec. 6, 1891.

2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret A., b. May 9, 1893.

3<sup>rd</sup> Alice, b. Aug. 1, 1899.

4<sup>th</sup> Helen Caroline, b. Oct. 25, 1901.

6<sup>th</sup> Christian, mar. Anna Hatch.

1<sup>st</sup> Clayton, b. Mar. 21, 1889.

2<sup>nd</sup> Charles Frederick, b. July 14, 1891.

7<sup>th</sup> Angeline, mar. Frank Rice.

1<sup>st</sup> John, b. Feb. 9, 1890.

2<sup>nd</sup> Mildred, b. Nov. 1, 1892.

3<sup>rd</sup> Charles, b. Apr. 9, 1895.

4<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth, b. Jan. 20, 1898.

8<sup>th</sup> Ernest, mar. Laura Fellenser, b. Oct. 29, 1870.



- 56) 1<sup>100</sup> Ella F., b. Jan. 29, 1897.  
       2<sup>100</sup> Emma S., " " "  
       9<sup>95</sup> Thomas, mar. Alice Spencer.  
           1<sup>101</sup> Ellsworth Spencer, b. May 21, '03.  
           Scranton, Pa.  
 6<sup>88</sup> Mary Ann, mar. Henry Dennis, b. Jan. 11, 1830, d. Oct. 10, 1901.  
       1<sup>102</sup> Martha Jane, b. Sept. 27, 1850.  
       2<sup>102</sup> Emma, b. Mar. 13, 1852.  
       3<sup>102</sup> Theodore, b. Sept. 14, 1854.  
       4<sup>102</sup> Jennie, b. Aug. 16, 1856.  
       5<sup>102</sup> Lucy, b. June 28, 1858.  
       6<sup>102</sup> Mary Alice, b. Feb. 12, 1861.  
       7<sup>102</sup> Charles K., b. Sept. 20, 1863.  
       8<sup>102</sup> Elizabeth, b. May 10, 1865.  
       9<sup>102</sup> Kate, b. June 23, 1868.  
 10<sup>102</sup> Jacob, b. Sept. 23, 1870.  
 11<sup>102</sup> Lange, b. Mar. 30, 1874.  
           Live at Stroudsburg, Pa.

- 7<sup>88</sup> Joseph J., mar. Mary J. Rhoads. 6 children.  
       1<sup>103</sup> Newton, d. Sept. 25, 1857.  
       2<sup>103</sup> A dau., d. Dec. 26, 1861, age 3 years, 4 months and 27 days.  
 8<sup>88</sup> Lewis, mar. Julia Werkheiser.  
 11<sup>88</sup> William, mar. Sarah Kemmerer, b. Feb. 9, 1834.  
       1<sup>104</sup> Anna L., b. Aug. 3, 1866, mar. Simon Warich.  
       1<sup>106</sup> Katie, b. July 26, 1892.  
       2<sup>104</sup> Carrie, b. July 7, 1869, mar. George Nickelson.  
       1<sup>106</sup> Mary Ester, b. Jan. 7, 1892.

- 60) 8<sup>106</sup> Maryette, b. Sept. 16, 1842, mar. a Mr. Dohm. Had 5 children, 1 d.  
 9<sup>88</sup> Hannah, b. Jan. 16, 1850, d. May 30, 1870, mar. a Mr. Causebaam. Had 2 children, 1 living.  
 Five more children of this family died. Several great-grandchildren are living.  
 Jos. Algert was a farmer, a Republican, a Free-will Baptist, deacon and chorister for many years.

- 2<sup>88</sup> Philip, mar. (first) Christine Beck, b. Dec. 10, 1813, (is yet living) dau. of Philip Beck and wife, Mary, *nec* Labar. Moved to Canada about 1795, lived there 17 years, moved to N. Y. State, Lake Co., in 1812, crossed Lake Ontario on ice with ox-teams. Fearing arrest because of war, he changed his name to Peck and kept that name thereafter.  
 1<sup>100</sup> Rachel, b. May 15, 1841, mar. Luther J. Sanford, b. Mar. 5, 1825.  
 2<sup>100</sup> Willis P., b. July 14, 1851. Ludlowville, N. Y.  
 3<sup>100</sup> Ella A., b. Dec. 29, 1854.

- 3<sup>88</sup> John, mar. Julia Houck, b. May 21, 1818, d. Sept. 19, 1898. Dau. of Francis Houck.  
 1<sup>100</sup> Robert James, b. 1838, d. Sept. 1887.  
 2<sup>100</sup> Henry Francis, b. July 24, 1843, mar. Luella Sturgis, b. 1845, d. June 29, 1903, at Tyrone, on the way home from the Pacific Coast. She was the dau. of

- 59) 2<sup>106</sup> Hazel, d.  
       3<sup>106</sup> Willard Matthias, b. Aug. 12, 1897.  
       4<sup>106</sup> Leroy William, b. Mar. 10, 1900.  
           Live at Bangor, Pa.  
       12<sup>88</sup> Theodore, mar. Martha Staples.  
 7<sup>88</sup> Henry, mar. *nec* Hess. Moved to Columbia Co., Pa.  
 8<sup>88</sup> Elizabeth, mar. John Fellenser. Had 5 children, all d.  
 9<sup>88</sup> Mary, mar. Henry Algert, b. 1780, d. June 4, 1842.  
       1<sup>107</sup> Joseph, b. Mar. 6, 1808, d. June 17, 1877.  
       2<sup>107</sup> Philip, b. Jan. 14, 1810, d. Nov. 8, 1891.  
       3<sup>107</sup> John, b. Mar. 3, 1812, d. Aug. 14, 1862.  
       4<sup>107</sup> Julia, b. Feb. 18, 1818, d. Jan. 25, 1856.  
       5<sup>107</sup> Catharine, b. Apr. 10, 1820, d. Mar. 30, '53.  
       1<sup>107</sup> Joseph, mar. Eliza DeRemer, b. Aug. 17, 1810, d. Feb. 16, 1875. Moved from Pa. to New York in 1829. Thence to Wis., 1844.  
       1<sup>108</sup> Cath. Ann, b. July 13, 1828, mar. Bacon. Had 8 children, 3 living.  
       2<sup>108</sup> Geo. W., b. Apr. 22, 1830. Had 5 children—Mrs. Webster and 2 sons living.  
       3<sup>108</sup> Henry N., b. Feb. 20, 1832.  
       4<sup>108</sup> Mahala, b. Mar. 6, 1834, d. Aug. 31, '92, mar. a Mr. Harington.  
       5<sup>108</sup> Andrew, d. in infancy.  
       6<sup>108</sup> Margaret, b. Mar. 18, 1838, mar. a Mr. Patchin. 1 son living.  
       7<sup>108</sup> Sarah Elizabeth, b. Feb. 17, 1840, d. Dec. 4, 1900, mar. a Mr. Dodge. Had 5 children, 3 living.

61) Rev. Dr. Sturgis, of the Presbyterian Church.

- 1<sup>111</sup> Mabel Cleveland, b. Sept. 1878. She was a graduate of Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pa., and now a Senior in Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.  
 3<sup>110</sup> Mary, b. 1845, mar. Jacob Sternier. Has 9 children living.  
 4<sup>107</sup> Julia, mar. Joseph Hunsberger, b. Aug. 23, 1817.  
       1<sup>112</sup> Mary C., b. Mar. 31, 1841.  
       2<sup>112</sup> Fanny A., b. Mar. 22, 1842.  
           Live with their father at Centerville, Pa.  
       3<sup>112</sup> Henry C., b. July 31, 1844. A lawyer in Chicago.  
       4<sup>112</sup> Abraham C., b. Mar. 20, 1846. Has an aviary near Portland, Pa.  
       5<sup>112</sup> Anna Louise, b. Jan. 25, 1857. Widow of late Dr. Bush, Stroudsburg, Pa.  
 5<sup>107</sup> Catharine, mar. John Richards, b. Apr. 10, 1821, d. May 26, 1900.  
       1<sup>113</sup> Irvin, b. Nov. 4, 1844, mar. Eleanor Dickson, b. Oct. 22, 1843.  
       1<sup>114</sup> Carrie Ellen, b. Apr. 7, 1872, mar. Chas. H. Delts, dentist at Trenton, N. J. 1 son, b. June 1, 1899.  
       2<sup>114</sup> Sarah Lillian, b. Sept. 7, 1873, mar. Wm. V. Coleman, 144 13th Street, N. Y.



- 2<sup>113</sup> Mary Elizabeth, b. Nov. 15, 1846, mar. Wm. Johnson.
- 3<sup>114</sup> Annie Cath., b. Aug. 16, 1849, mar. Jas. McCauley.  
Easton, Pa.
- 10<sup>115</sup> Sarah, mar. Robert Shaw, and moved to Ill.
- 11<sup>116</sup> George, b. Jan. 15, 1797, d. Feb. 3, 1871, mar. (first) Mary Bitja, b. Dec. 15, 1803, d. Oct. 1, 1825.
- 1<sup>117</sup> Edward.
- 2<sup>118</sup> Charles, mar. Mary Ann Felker, d.
- 1<sup>119</sup> Linford.
- 2<sup>120</sup> Elmira, mar. Lewis Drake.
- 1<sup>121</sup> Emelia.
- 2<sup>122</sup> Clayton.
- 3<sup>123</sup> Charles.
- 4<sup>124</sup> Willie, d.
- 5<sup>125</sup> Nelly, d.
- 6<sup>126</sup> Lilyan, d.
- 3<sup>127</sup> George.
- 4<sup>128</sup> Samuel.
- 5<sup>129</sup> John.
- 6<sup>130</sup> Horace.
- 7<sup>131</sup> Milton.
- 11<sup>132</sup> George, mar. (second) Lovina Lern, b. Mar. 11, 1808, d. Aug. 17, 1872.
- 3<sup>133</sup> Lewis.
- 4<sup>134</sup> Sarah Jane.
- 5<sup>135</sup> Sydenham.
- 6<sup>136</sup> Eliza.
- 7<sup>137</sup> Lucinda.
- 8<sup>138</sup> Allen.

## CHAPTER XIII

### LOST AMONG THE INDIANS

**J**OHN JACOB (6<sup>1</sup>), the sixth child of Joseph Keller, Sr., was 2 years, 2 months, and 5 days old when captured by the Indians. All we know is simply—he was lost! Lost; so far as his tender mortal life was concerned. That he could have walked the journey of three hundred miles cannot be supposed; that the Indians or the mother should have carried him is just as hard to believe. In either case, or both combined, it is but natural to suppose that the mother after her return would have told the sad story; and if so, it would have been handed down as a sacred reminiscence. What then remains to be believed? Either that the Indians traded him off as best they could on the way; or killed and scalped him also, all unknown to the mother. To the latter supposition we may be inclined by reason of the tempting premium offered by the grand French Government.

The Lord gave, and the Lord allowed to be taken away; and yet the Lord took good care of little John Keller—lost to us a little while, but not to Him! He came not to his parents, but they went to him. (64)

PER MRS COPE, IT HAS SINCE BEEN FOUND THAT HE SURVIVED.

FATHER OF JACOB AND

GRANDFATHER OF AARON (IV-J8) →

- 3<sup>139</sup> Lewis, mar. Matilda Heller.
- 1<sup>140</sup> Ella.
- 2<sup>141</sup> Marshall.
- 3<sup>142</sup> Chester.
- 4<sup>143</sup> Sarah Jane, mar. Fred Fellenser.
- 1<sup>144</sup> George.
- 2<sup>145</sup> Lewis, d.
- 5<sup>146</sup> Sydenham, mar. Louise Heller.
- 1<sup>147</sup> Orion.
- 2<sup>148</sup> Clayton, d.
- 3<sup>149</sup> Horatio, d.
- 6<sup>150</sup> Eliza, mar. Fred Long.
- 1<sup>151</sup> Ella.
- 2<sup>152</sup> Mary, mar. Harry Haden.
- 3<sup>153</sup> Flora, d.
- 4<sup>154</sup> Clara, d.
- 5<sup>155</sup> Gertrude, d.
- 7<sup>156</sup> Lucinda, mar. Jacob Rhoads.
- 1<sup>157</sup> Howard, mar. Sally Hinton, Stroudsburg, Pa.
- 2<sup>158</sup> William.
- 3<sup>159</sup> Eliza, mar. John Bader, 4 children.
- 4<sup>160</sup> Matilda, mar. John Dixon.
- 5<sup>161</sup> Owen.
- 6<sup>162</sup> Allen.
- 7<sup>163</sup> Frederick.
- 8<sup>164</sup> Norman, mar. Fannie Schafer, 1 child.
- 9<sup>165</sup> Laura, mar., lives in Philadelphia, Pa.
- 10<sup>166</sup> Claude.

## CHAPTER XIV

### JOHN JACOB, THE SECOND, AND FAMILY

II, 10

**T**HIS John Jacob Keller (7<sup>1</sup>) was the seventh child of Joseph Keller, Sr., and at the time of the Indian raid was five months and twenty-four days old—too young, as we know, to be bereft of the service of the mother. That he was given an older brother's name seems strange; but such was the case, as is testified by the writing of the father in the old Family Bible. This fact bears strong testimony to the state of his mind at that time. Like the Patriarch, Jacob of old, he too could say in deep sorrow: "Me have ye bereaved of my children; Joseph is not—all things are against me." Four of the family were gone, possibly never to return; and only five left; and of what value should a mother be estimated over against a helpless babe? The strongest heart, under such circumstances, would surely be crushed to the ground.

Of this son also, we have but little information. He grew up in the Old Home undisturbed. He married Maria Dorothy Metz, a family name still found, like that of Andre, in that community. He moved to Somerset Township, Washington County, Pa., and later, to the State of Ohio.



It appears that they had the following children:

1<sup>123</sup> Joseph.  
 2<sup>124</sup> Jacob. ← **FATHER OF AARON (IV-18)**  
 3<sup>125</sup> Margaret.  
 4<sup>126</sup> Philip.  
 5<sup>127</sup> John.

THIS ONLY MENTION BY  
ELI KELLER IN THIS  
HISTORY OF THIS  
JACOB KELLER

V, 10(1)

- III 5<sup>128</sup> Rev. John Keller, son of (John Jacob Keller) and wife, Maria Dorothy Metz, b. Jan. 15, 1801, in Somerset, Washington Co., Pa., d. May 21, '52. Rev. Keller mar. Lydia Preish, b. Sept. 2, 1811, d. May 28, 1864.
- IV 1<sup>129</sup> Lucy, b. 1832, mar. Philip Wahl, of Clarence, N. Y.
- IV 2<sup>124</sup> Mary Elizabeth, b. May 26, 1834, d. Nov. 14, 1893, mar. William Emert, of Lockport, N. Y.
- V 1<sup>126</sup> Charles Wm., b. July 9, 1857.  
 " 2<sup>126</sup> Jennie Louise, b. June 27, 1862, d. Oct. 20, 1865.  
 " 3<sup>126</sup> Edwin John, b. Mar. 31, 1867, Lockport, N. Y.  
 " 4<sup>126</sup> Herbert Keller, b. Nov. 15, 1873.
- IV 3<sup>124</sup> Matilda, b. Mar. 1837, d. Dec. 14, 1857, mar. Chas. Schlegel.
- IV 4<sup>124</sup> Louise, b. June 29, 1838, d. Mar. 6, 1887, mar. Geo. Zurbrick, b. June 5, 1839, d. May 15, 1886.
- V 1<sup>126</sup> Albert, b. July 7, 1863, d. Apr. 20, '64.  
 " 2<sup>126</sup> William Warren, b. Feb. 14, 1866.
- IV 5<sup>124</sup> John, b. Jan. 1847, d. Sept. 15, 1868.
- IV 6<sup>124</sup> Helena Amelia, b. May 30, 1851.

All the children of Rev. Keller have died.

Rev. John Keller studied under the direction of Rev. George Weisz, Lancaster, Ohio; was licensed and ordained by the Reformed Synod of Ohio in 1827; came to Townline (later called Lancaster), Erie Co., State of New York, in 1833; was a member of Erie Classis, which seceded from the Synod of Ohio. His purpose was to return to his former church connection, but whether he did so, we are not informed—nor can we give the cause of said secession.

Returning from Ohio in the Fall of 1878, I called at Lancaster, Erie Co., N. Y., and met Mr. and Mrs. Zurbrick, both feeble. They were exceedingly glad to see me, and especially to be assured that our family was not yet dying out of consumption, as they had feared. After that we corresponded and exchanged photographs. Their pictures are now to me mementoes of their kindly feelings.

#### ★ NOTE:

About 85 years later, four great grandsons of Jacob above settled in the Town of Lancaster, N.Y. immediately before and after World War I. Not until the year 1966, when they first saw this history by Eli Keller, did they know that an ancestor, John Keller, had preceded them. William, George, Vintie, and Kenneth Keller were sons of Joseph Vincent Keller, who was a son of Aaron Keller, who in turn was a son of Jacob (2<sup>123</sup> above). At this writing, George is deceased, William lives in Franklinville, N.Y., Vintie and Kenneth still reside in the Town of Lancaster.

3/25/67  
D.C.Keller



FIRST GLIMPSE AT THE PHILIP KELLER, SR.  
FAMILY

PHILIP KELLER, Sr. (8<sup>1</sup>—II, 11), like David of old, could say: "I was the youngest of my father's family;" and say too, "the seventh son." The years rolled more quietly on than before; and finding plenty of labor, as well as needful rest, he developed a model manhood. When twenty-two years of age, he looked about for a partner for life, and found Sarah Miller (II, 12), first wife of Philip Keller, Sr. (b. Sept. 27, 1763, d. Oct. 16, 1804), and daughter of Henry Miller, Sr., in the so-called "Settlement" on the Lehigh River. She was of his own age, and of his own people. The Miller family had before lived as neighbors to the Kellers; but in quest of better land, moved away—Sarah, however, was not forgotten. This union was blessed with three children, all sons:

1<sup>st</sup> John Henry, b. Dec. 24, 1786.

2<sup>nd</sup> Jacob, b. Dec. 21, 1787.

3<sup>rd</sup> Adam, b. Oct. 27, 1790.

3 OWNER  
OF ORIGINAL  
HOME

On Sept. 17, 1800, his father died, and April 22, 1802, his mother also. The youngest son, when but thirteen years and eight months old, was instantly killed (June 28, 1804) when hauling hay. The boy was on the wagon. The day being stormy, some hay was blown upon the horses frightening them, whereupon they ran away. Little Adam

(68)

## 70 HISTORY OF THE KELLER FAMILY

indulged in. A large ring was formed and then the arena for contestants was ready. Now, it once so happened that a neighbor of his, small in stature, was a noted wrestler—especially so in his own estimation—who, being eager to gain another red feather for his cap, challenged Father Keller to a contest. Not to accept such a challenge was considered cowardice. The one refusing was despised by everyone. All were no doubt eager to see the outcome of so unequal a contest. When both were ready, Father Keller took his opponent easily under one arm; and, amid a general shout of admiration, carried him struggling in vain out of the ring, and thus ended the conflict.

There was another and far more daring feat. A large ox was to be slaughtered at his own house, or rather in the meadow at the barn. The way to do it was, one man with a sledge would knock the animal down, and another would immediately cut its throat. Father Keller stood ready with the knife, while the other man used the sledge. The ox fell on its knees, and with that Father Keller was on its neck cutting away at its throat. The ox, however, regained its feet and ran down the meadow, Father Keller still on its neck and at his work. The end was that both fell down together covered with blood—Father Keller, however, had gained the victory. My mother (his stepdaughter) was an eye-witness and always shuddered when she related the conflict many years after.

He enlarged his property and was prospered in all his affairs. When his sons were married, he

(III, 36) was thrown off the load of hay, and was crushed to death under the wheels of the wagon. In the same year, Oct. 16, the mother <sup>SARAH MILLER</sup> also died. All these are buried at the Plainfield Church, Northampton Co., Pa. Thus within the space of but four years, death cast its shadow over this family no fewer than four times, so that with the exception of two sons, mere lads, the father was left alone. He entered a second marriage with widow Susannah Engler (II, 13), of Moore Township, Pa., born Nov. 22, 1770. She had one daughter and two sons, who moved into the Keller home with her, where there was not only room, but also work for all. More than this, he built another house near his own for his new father-in-law, Rev. Peter Fred Niemeyer (b. Aug. 24, 1733, d. Aug. 16, 1815) and wife Maria, *nee* Horn (b. Aug. 24, 1743, d. Aug. 4, 1816). His second marriage was blessed with one child, a daughter:

4<sup>th</sup> Sarah (III, 37), b. Oct. 5, 1807.

After the death of Sr. Father Niemeyer, the house in which they had lived, built and owned by Father Keller, was converted into a school house. There for a number of years a day-school was held for the benefit of the neighborhood, at the patron's expense so far as current expenses were concerned. Philip Keller, Sr., when at his best, was considered the strongest man, physically, in his community. There are several feats of his known, which may here be mentioned. Wrestling was at that time considered a test of strength, especially of agility. At public gatherings such sports were extensively

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looked about for more and better land. With such intention, he visited the Shawnee Valley, on the Susquehanna River between Wilkes Barre and Nantikoke, Pa. He went there with his own conveyance, having hitched up "Stocking." It was the Fall of the year. The land was like a rich garden. The corn was wonderfully large, but there were plenty of farms for sale at a reasonable price. On all sides, however, severe fevers and great misery prevailed. He himself told his story thus: "I untied 'Stocking' and said to him, let's go home, Plainfield is good enough for us." Soon after, he bought a farm on the Delaware, north of Easton and a little west of Howell's store, mill, etc. In 1826 he moved there, accompanied by his daughter and stepsons, Joseph and George Engler. In that home, well sheltered by a range of hills on the west and looking pleasantly toward the Delaware on the east, he spent in quietude the evening of his life.

He died Oct. 2, 1842, aged 79 yrs., 6 mos., 3 days.

<sup>III, 37</sup> Sarah died Mar. 17, 1856, aged 48 yrs., 7 mos., 12 days. (PHILIP'S DAUGHTER)

Grandmother Keller died Dec. 4, 1859, aged 89 yrs., 12 days. (PHILIP'S 2D WIFE II, 13)

These are buried on the banks of the Delaware at the "Three Churches," in lower Mt. Bethel Township, Northampton Co., Pa.



## CHAPTER XVI

JOHN HENRY KELLER (1<sup>st</sup>—III, 32)

A CHARACTERISTIC of the names in the Keller family from the beginning down is that the foremost place is held by Scripture names. In this case, however, the name Henry was no doubt accepted in honor of the child's grandfather, Henry Miller. Well might this be allowed, for in his whole make-up, especially physical, he was not of the old Keller type as his father was, but of the Miller type.

He was more than thirty years old when he married. His wife was Mary Engler (III, 33), born July 4, 1797, and was a stepdaughter of his father. We may virtually say that when his father, Philip, Sr., chose a second wife for himself, he also chose a wife for his oldest son. It is yet a great question, whether the old German way of parents looking out the partners for their children is not the wiser and better way. Undoubtedly, many a one would have fared infinitely better had he accepted such parental advice.

The following are the children:

IV, 1 1<sup>st</sup> Philip, b. Jan. 6, 1818.

IV, 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Anna, b. Mar. 31, 1820.

\*④ IV, 5 3<sup>rd</sup> Amos, b. Nov. 10, 1822.

IV, 6 (4<sup>th</sup>) Eli, b. Dec. 20, 1825. ← AUTHOR OF THIS HISTORY

IV, 8 5<sup>th</sup> Joel Frederick, b. Mar. 31, 1829.

\*④ IV, 10 6<sup>th</sup> Aaron Henry, b. Nov. 16, 1832.

\*④ IV, 11 7<sup>th</sup> Joseph Allen, b. Mar. 27, 1836. ← ONE OF THE EDITORS

IV, 13 8<sup>th</sup> Susannah, b. June 12, 1840.

④ KILLED IN CIVIL WAR (72)  
CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS

74) fond hope to remain near together was possibly the chief motive for this removal. Alas, for such earthly hopes! The terrible Rebellion, worse than any tornado which ever swept the earth, swept over our land. Three sons as volunteers went to the front, and two of them, killed in one battle, were brought back pierced and murdered corpses, and were buried in one grave. One son, a minister of the Gospel, was called to another field. Another son, a professor in Heidelberg College, was also away. The youngest of the family married and moved away. Yet, amid all this, he never murmured nor complained. When, in his seventieth year he left his old home, he laid aside all his public labors and responsibilities and confined himself to his narrowed and quiet home circle. He attended church and prayer-meeting, read his devotional books and current news of the day regularly. When apparently already in a comatose state, he desired a family meeting, and he himself appointed the time for it. When we were all present and asked for an expression of his wishes, he answered: "Once more as a family here on earth, let us worship together." His death was literally a falling asleep. He died September 10, 1867, aged 80 years, 8 months, 17 days. Mother died November 18, 1884, aged 87 years, 4 months, 14 days. Both are buried at Bucyrus, Ohio, by the side of their patriot-sons on the banks of the Sandusky river.

One of his last acts for the community was the securing and laying out of a large Union Cemetery on the banks of the Sandusky river at Bucyrus,

73) Should we characterize father in one word, we would say, "A man intensely active." On his father's property, half a mile north of the first home, were a grist and saw mill and a lime kiln. The territory covered by this property was much more than is now covered by the town of Delabole. There a house was built, a home established and occupied till 1835, when he moved to a farm more than a mile nearer the Plainfield Church.

He was a farmer, miller, captain, major, colonel, brigade inspector, justice of the peace, notary public, associate judge of the county, and an active member and elder in the Reformed Church. He was the author of a special plan for raising and protecting the funds of our theological seminary at Mercersberg, Pa. The plan was known as the "Plainfield Bonds." The plan was to leave the principal, covered by bonds, in the hands of the donors, unless the payment of the principal and the interest was preferred. The trustees, much pleased with the plan for this protection against all possible loss, desired to call these bonds "Keller's Bonds." But he objected and suggested the name, "Plainfield Bonds".

In the Spring of 1856, the whole family moved to Crawford Co., Ohio, and a year later his brother Jacob (III, 34), with his family, followed to the same place. When young, he had already desired to go westward, but his father objected. Later, however, the desire again manifested itself, but was opposed by mother. Finally, all were of one mind, and the previous dreams were realized. The

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Ohio. When all was completed, the trustees, since he was the oldest of them, said he should select his plot first. In compliance with this request, he selected his plot on a fine knoll near the river.

#### I.—FAMILY LIFE

Before following up the members of this family individually, we will briefly review the surroundings and movings of the same—constituting what may be called their family life. How much everyone owes to the varied surroundings amid which his or her life was spent from infancy up, no one can tell. It is no doubt true that all of us are "the creatures of circumstances." Some of the circumstances of this family of John Henry Keller, we will therefore here notice.

a. There was no room left for idleness. The large farm, supplied with all needed buildings, contained many acres. At first (1835) there was far more woodland than was needed. That surplus was, year by year, cleared away and turned into productive fields. The fences were built of chestnut rails—the worm-fence of seven or eight rails to the panel, which, to aid appearance, was taken down and rebuilt almost every Spring. Heavy crops of rye, oats, and corn made much work in threshing, etc. All kinds of labor-saving machines had not yet been invented. Well-kept horses and cattle produced piles of manure, which in its time, had to be spread over the fields and meadows. Especially did the raising and manufacturing of flax



76) make continuous and woeful work. In short, for everyone, early and late, there was—work!

b. There were also *amusements*. Hunting and fishing at any time were not prohibited. Early in the Spring, the speckled trout lured us away to the mountain streams. Miles seemed short to get to the right place at daybreak--long before sunrise. If the air was calm and mild, a long string of "beauties" was the sure reward. In the springtime, but more especially the Fall of the year, the wild pigeons afforded much sport. Around the buckwheat-fields, early in the morning, and late in the evening they were swarming. At noon their happy "eight! eight!" was heard along the waters in the heavy timbers on the low grounds. The well-trained hunter would select his position, and at times the game came as fast as he could load his flint-locked gun and shoot them down. More amusement than this was afforded in pigeon-catching with the net. In this process not a bird was wounded, and often flocks numbering dozens were caught in a moment—but being caught the heads of the birds were crushed by the thumb or even by the teeth of the hunter—so cruel is avaricious man! In the Fall of the year, and amid the snows of early Winter, the hunting of deer on the mountains was an inspiration. As a rule, they knew how to take care of themselves, yet, for once, I had the pleasure, early in the morning, of shooting a fine roe, which, having removed its intestines, I carried triumphantly home.

But why must I refer to such experiences as

77) The old custom of giving strong drink to laborers, especially in haymaking and harvest time, as also at so-called frolics, made for all manner of purposes, was abandoned. Father Keller, building a barn in 1840, a house at Delabole in 1849, and a mill there, too, in 1850, had need of many such gatherings; but in the face of all manner of sneers, there was no liquor to be had; he himself, however, remained one of the most cheerful on the ground.

c. Rev. Father Th. Pomp, the beloved pastor of the Plainfield Reformed Congregation, retired after more than fifty years of labor, and a man of the world became his successor. The same was later expelled from the ministry.

f. Under these circumstances, practical Christianity was at a low ebb. The Keller family, with others, introduced *weekly prayermeetings*, which were held in such houses as were freely opened. In this connection also, family devotions were established by those sufficiently interested. However, the services of the church were not neglected. It was a movement like that of the Pictists in Württemberg, Germany; but not like that of the Separatists in the same country.

g. The Keller boys learned trades. This idea was taken up from the custom of the Jews, and finds expression in the proverb, "A trade is an estate." Philip (IV, 1), having as the first-born much to do at home, studied algebra under an old German, Steltzner, and later surveying also under the direction of his own father. Amos (IV, 5) learned shoemaking of Th. Chamberlain, who lived

77) sources of amusement? Much of the labor on the farm was in itself rich pleasure. When the green meadows were almost ready for mowing, the time seemed long till the sharp scythes could be swung in grand regularity, and the swathes laid long and thick. When the rich ripe rye was bending low under its weight, what exquisite pleasure to swing with strong arms the cradle, and cut it squarely down; then close behind, the farmer's daughter, blooming in health, deftly handling the rake, would pile the sheaves along; right after her, the binder with strong arms and bands was binding up the golden sheaves. What pleasure, when the last load of hay or grain cleaned a field, it was to swing the hat with a hearty "Hurrah!" or, when the last fork of hay was thrown up into the steaming mow filled to the top, how great was the delight to sink back on the soft warm bed with the exclamation, "It's done."

c. There was a strict observance of *Sunday*. The Lord's Day at that time was largely spent in idleness, and the proverb, "The devil finds work for idle hands to do," was applicable. Father Keller opposed this desecration, and required his family to keep holy the Sabbath day. He bought a family library of books of the American Tract Society, and the periodicals, "American Messenger" and "Amerikanischer Botschafter," were from week to week circulated in the community. Sunday schools were established and maintained in almost every schoolhouse far and wide.

d. At the same time *intemperance* was opposed.

79) in one of their houses. Eli (IV, 6) learned weaving of Peter Rader who lived in the house formerly occupied by Mr. Chamberlain. Joel F. (IV, 8) learned milling of Aaron Rader in his father's mill. Aaron Henry (IV, 10) learned blacksmithing of Frederick Bartholomew in his father's blacksmith shop.

h. Of these boys, at least four in their time—Philip, Eli, Joel F., and Joseph A.—were *teachers* in the public schools. The schools in many districts were not numerically strong, nor were there so many branches of studies required as in later years; nevertheless, for all practical purposes, very valuable work was done. The idea prevailed that education and religion should go hand in hand, and that God should be acknowledged in the school as well as in the family and the church.

i. All of them also took an interest in *military affairs*. Philip was lieutenant in the militia. Amos was the captain of his own company. Eli and Aaron H. were lieutenants in volunteer companies. There was a time when, in a vacated stone house at the Keller Home, the *lathes and the loom* were in the same room side by side making not a little noise. Not always, however, was the sound of industry heard, but the *music* of the clarinet and the German flute were also heard amidst the din of industry. In a corner stood old U. S. muskets (bayonets and all) which were used in manual and military drill. All these things with many others not mentioned entered into the *make-up* of this family.



To this Keller family, the removal to Ohio was an important event which well deserves attention. The movement was not a hasty one, but one matured and carried out after long consideration. The common desire to remain together, of which I spoke before, was the chief reason for the general removal; yet numerous other reasons tending to the same end deserve notice. It was well understood that there was better land westward, which could be cultivated with more ease and better results; that the use of lime on the land, so peculiarly galling to them, could be dispensed with. This consideration received special force from the fact that one of their number, Joel F., whose health was forcing him to leave the mill, was anxious to move to the West. It was also understood that in the State of Ohio education, morality, and religion stood on a higher plane. Father Keller, though sixty-nine years of age and actuated by such high considerations, made a tour of inspection as far west as Illinois. There he also visited old neighbors and friends, and on his return stopped off at Galion, Ohio. In that town lived Rev. Dr. Max Stern, a Reformed minister, formerly of near Easton, Pa., in whom father had all confidence. Dr. Stern gave father into the care of another Pennsylvanian, Mr. Shumaker, who was to be father's guide on a tour of inspection in the northern part of Crawford County to look at the land and search out such farms as might be for sale. He at once bought a farm of more than two hun-

Father found a home in Bucyrus, the county seat; Uncle Jacob, (III, 34) in Annapolis. Philip (IV, 1) established himself on the farm already mentioned. Amos (IV, 5) conducted a hardware store in Annapolis. Anna (IV, 3) stood a true Martha by the side of the parents. Eli (IV, 6) filled an appointment for preaching the first Sunday after his arrival, and was at once elected pastor of the Bucyrus charge of the Reformed church. Joel F. (IV, 8) received a farm adjoining Philip's, so that the two brothers labored side by side, separated by the Broken Sword creek. Aaron H. (IV, 10) became a partner in a Bucyrus planing mill. Joseph (IV, 11) and Susannah (IV, 13) attended College at Tiffin. Uncle Jacob bought one farm a little northeast of the Ruppert farm before mentioned, for his only son, Joseph (IV, 17), and yet another for his son-in-law, Abraham Bower (IV, 16), a short distance southwest of Annapolis. Thus all found their places, and labor adapted to their respective tastes and abilities. We were told by our neighbors of a scourge of fever ague, from which the first settlers, before the marshy places were drained, had suffered, and the prediction was made that we too would have to be "initiated" into the mystic secrets of the order—but such was not the case for we were blessed with health and happiness. Those were five sunny years to the time of the great Rebellion. We have called the years but days, inasmuch as they were spent, alas, too soon. For a little while, prosperity smiled upon us and cheered our hearts, whilst in the certain and near future

three acres north-east of Bucyrus and near Annapolis (now Sulphur Springs) on the Broken Sword creek. The soil is of the best. Springs and running water flow the year round. Plenty of choice timber is to be found. All needed buildings are in excellent condition. Being an old surveyor, he surveyed the property with his eye, and planted his foot there as the center of a new home for his whole family.

In the Spring of 1856, this Keller family, already composed of three families and a few other families who joined in, moved together and settled in the same neighborhood in Crawford Co., Ohio.

One year later, an unexpected event occurred, when Father's only living brother, Jacob Keller (III, 34), sold out his property, the oldest Keller home (consecrated by labor, blood, and tears) and also in a group of three other families moved to the very same neighborhood in Ohio. This almost wholesale removal from Northampton County, Pa., stirred the old community, and not a few friends came as visitors to see the place of the new settlement. One of those old neighbors, having accompanied Father one day to a point affording a good view of the Ruppert farm, said: "When I heard of your removal in your old days I said, 'He must be foolish for doing that', but I will not say so any more."

### III.—SUNNY DAYS IN THE BUCKEYE STATE

It did not take long until all these Kellers had settled down to some useful and permanent work.

the thunders of the coming war-storm seemed to forebode what was to come so soon.

### IV.—THE REBELLION

Early in 1861, our great Rebellion, like a monster volcano, burst forth, threatening destruction to all near and dear to patriotic hearts. It was like a destructive Simoon coming over us from the South. Father Keller often said: "I anticipated all this, but did not expect to see it in my own time." Abbott, the historian, sums up the object of the Rebellion thus: "It was the design of the rebels to overthrow these free institutions, and in their stead to introduce the reign of Slavery. Capital was to own labor. The industrial classes were to be slaves, kept in forced ignorance. The privileged classes were to live in indolence and luxury, maintained by the toil of their unpaid serfs."

The entire North had to be wakened up by the thunders of their own cannon to a right sense of the unspeakably great interests at stake. The country was shaken worse than it ever was, or ever could be, by an earthquake. The waves of Rebellion thus roaring and running high seemingly had to strike the Keller family also.

A classmate of Joseph's in Heidelberg College at Tiffin, and other students, at once enlisted in the 8th O. V. I. for three months. Joseph was moved to write to Father concerning his own duty. The advice given was, not to be disturbed, but to pursue his studies at least to his graduation. The hardware store of Amos at Annapolis became the



84) war center of the community. The young men, night after night, gathered in, and under the experienced eye of Amos, engaged of their own free will in the drill of military tactics. Brother Aaron H. was naturally drawn into the same strong current. This was only the opening scene of the drama then to follow. From the young men came very soon the challenge direct to the two Kellers: "You be our leaders, as volunteers, and we will follow." This challenge, in harmony with the spirit of our government, with the crying wants of the time, and therefore also with their own consciences, had to be obeyed.

Then brothers Amos, Aaron H., and Joseph A. entered Camp Noble, Tiffin, Ohio, August 15, 1861. In the organization of the 49th regiment, O. V. I., their company was C, to which was entrusted the regimental flag. We cannot here follow in marches and counter-marches—by day and by night, in rain and in sunshine—down into Alabama and along the Mississippi; and back again to Tennessee, where, on the last day of December, 1862, in the early morning of the battle of Murfreesborough, Captain Amos and Lieutenant Aaron H. were sacrificed. On the very next day, January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect, of which Abbott says: "The introduction of colored men into the army was one of the most momentous events in the history of the war. In less than six months one hundred thousand stalwart men of Ethiopian descent were clothed in the uniform of American soldiers." Their position, under General

Rosecrans, was on the extreme right wing, where the enemy in massed columns forced our line back more than two miles. It was like Gettysburg later—first defeat, then victory, southern dash, northern endurance. It was like Gettysburg in this respect; as the noble General Reynolds had to be sacrificed at the beginning of the conflict, of whom Abbott says: "Foremost in the fray rode the undaunted Reynolds, to meet, alas! the relentless death which had marked his brave life for that day's first crown of holy sacrifice." So too at the very beginning of this battle of three days these brothers fell. Amos was mortally wounded. The life of Aaron, whose one limb had been carried away by a cannon ball, might have been spared had he been properly cared for. From early dawn on the last day of December till late in the afternoon of the next day, January 1—thirty-five hours—they were left unattended and exposed. Only half an hour before Amos expired, they were brought together in a log cabin, near where they had fallen. On September 9, 1862, brother Joseph, prostrated by heavy marches, was brought from Murfreesborough to Nashville (city hospital No. 13), and on December 17, was discharged from the service. Father Keller and a few friends had visited the army but a short time before that battle, so full of sadness to us. Brother Aaron died January 25, 1863. Both were buried on the battlefield, but their bodies were soon after taken up by brother Joel and, by a month of persevering labor, brought back to the grotto and buried side by side on the family plot.

85 A letter from Colonel William Gibson to Father Keller now follows:

HQ. QR. 2D DIVISION, 28TH ARMY CORPS,  
CAMP SILL, Feb. 3d, 1863.

HON. JOHN KELLER,

DEAR SIR—I feel it due alike to yourself and to the noble dead, that I should offer at least one word of consolation in this the hour of your sorrow.

I first met your sons as soldiers, and after long associations in camp—on the march, and on many battle-fields; they have gone to their reward.

I am spared. They fell like patriot heroes in the performance of duty. When our flag and our national integrity were assailed by wicked traitors, your sons rushed to the rescue and they have fallen noble martyrs for the right. Their country will do honor to their memory! To the courage of them and their command, I had committed the safety of our Regimental banner. Under its ample folds they fell, and with them, two of the brave color guard. The company mourns its fallen officers; and the veteran Regiment drops from its rolls the names of two officers loved alike by all who met them.

To their natural goodness of heart they added all the graces of education; and all the qualities of brave, prudent and accomplished officers and soldiers. Entering the service from motives of duty, they never failed to meet any responsibility and duty of their position. Honest in every way, their business was always in perfect order, and never during all their term of service, had I occasion to urge them to duty, or chide them for neglect in anything.

Their places cannot be filled in the Regiment! But they are gone! We should remember that all must die, and death being a mere matter of time, we must not grieve when friends pass from the strifes, the trials and the sorrows of this world, to the realms of eternal peace and glory.

In your case you mourn not "as one without hope."

Educated in all the doctrines of our holy Religion, your sons lived and died, illustrating the power and value of that "faith that works by love and purifies the soul." Morning and evening, in camp and on the tented field, they regularly called on God in prayer, and never blushed to own that they were Christians. Before and since their fall I often remarked that in all my life I had never met such a noble example of real Christianity, as in Capt. Keller and Lieut. Keller. But they have fought their last battle. They died in honor, defending our great political inheritance. The sharp clash of musketry and roar of artillery will never more fall upon their ears, but for the martial music of the field and the combat, they will drink in the swelling anthems of angel hosts, in the grand temple of God and the redeemed.

As survivors we should strive to show ourselves worthy of that "Great Reward", and meet our departed companions in the better world.

God is in all things, and you will draw from the rich treasures of his holy word encouragement in your sorrow. Earnestly invoke the Divine grace to sustain yourself and family in this sad affliction; and I know that your Christian impressions will enable you to say: "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." I am most respectfully,

W. H. GIBSON,  
Col. 49th Ohio Com'dg Div.

Abbott, the historian, thus summed up the achievements of the war: "A generation has come and gone since the Rebellion, and what a mighty influence has been exerted by the men who fell in the struggle. We look upon the marble shaft and of read the battles chronicled there, and they tell us the hardships endured and victories won and we say: These men are dead! O, No! they are living! and the hallowed influence of their actions has kindled



88) a watch-fire in this nation, that no tyrant can ever put out.

"The great mission of the U. S. now is, to build up here the most majestic empire on this globe—with every man inspired by all the energies of republican freedom, and our whole magnificent domain, from ocean to ocean, and from Arctic ice to Tropic sun, smiling with happy homes—with waving fields and blooming gardens, and bright firesides—with the music of all industries, and the song of young men and maidens, and the joys of the bridal—with cities gorgeous with more than the fabled splendors of the Orient—with all that is massive in architecture, and ennobling in painting and sculpture, and the arts of the beautiful. And more than all this—infinitely more—that here in happy homes on earth, we may all be preparing for still happier homes in the skies.

"Here is scope for genius and goodness and energy in their highest combinations. We want no more of the dreadful achievements of war; no more of bombarded cities, and smouldering villages and midnight marches, and rain-swept bivouacs, and gory fields and crowded hospitals, and wounds, and groans, and death—with their distant echoes of weeping widows and wailing orphans—no more, O God! no more. But give us *Peace!*"

#### V.—GENEALOGICAL TABLE

✓, I (1<sup>128</sup>) Philip Keller (son of John Henry Keller), mar. Hannah T. Stocker, b. July 25, 1822, dau. of Francis Stocker and wife Barbara, *nee* Stoflet. V 1<sup>129</sup> Maria, b. Nov. 22, 1846, d. Dec. 4, 1892.

90) VII 3<sup>130</sup> Robert M., b. Oct. 28, 1898.  
" 4<sup>131</sup> Marian Dorothea, b. July 12, 1901, d. Mar. 28, 1902.

VII 3<sup>132</sup> Herbert K., mar. Bertha A. Smith, b. Jan. 15, 1878, dau. of Benj. F. Smith and wife, Isabella *nee* Start.

VII 1<sup>133</sup> Marjoria Ima, b. June 6, 1897.

" 2<sup>134</sup> Martha Isabel, b. Apr. 26, 1899.

" 3<sup>135</sup> Harold S., b. Oct. 3, 1902.

VII 4<sup>136</sup> Gertrude Eleanor, mar. Richard H. Scott, of Canada, b. July 23, 1868, son of Thomas and Mary Scott.

VII 1<sup>137</sup> Maurice Teel, b. Mar. 19, 1901.

V 4<sup>138</sup> John Henry, mar. Ella C. Sexauer, dau. of Fred Sexauer and wife, Mary, *nee* Ziegler.

VII 1<sup>139</sup> Mary Henrietta, b. July 27, 1887.

" 2<sup>140</sup> Lois Rebecca, b. Mar. 6, 1891.

" 3<sup>141</sup> Ruth Ellen, b. Aug. 3, 1894.

V 8<sup>129</sup> Lydia A., mar. Charles S. Ackerman, b. Aug. 19, 1865, son of Emanuel S. and Mary, *nee* Gossman.

VII 1<sup>142</sup> Naomi Edith, b. Sept. 20, 1900.

V 9<sup>129</sup> Francis Amos, mar. Maudesta H. Carrothers, b. Oct. 13, 1875, dau. of James B. Carrothers and Sarah J., *nee* Cole.

VII 1<sup>143</sup> Constance Rebecca, b. Feb. 18, 1897.

" 2<sup>144</sup> John Carrothers, b. July 20, 1898.

" 3<sup>145</sup> Robert Warren, b. Jan. 31, 1900.

✓, 3 (2<sup>128</sup>) Anna Keller, mar. Philip Osman, son of Jacob and Catharine (*nee* Eichhorn) Osman. He was born Mar. 29, 1829, emigrated to Bucyrus, Ohio, in Dec. 1851. In the Summer of 1903, he

- V 2<sup>127</sup> Sabina E., b. Nov. 22, 1847. 189  
" 3<sup>128</sup> Susannah E., b. Sept. 16, 1849, d. in Pa.  
" 4<sup>129</sup> John Henry, b. Oct. 9, 1851, d. Mar. 18, 1895.  
" 5<sup>129</sup> Sarah A., b. Jan. 9, 1854, d. Jan. 28, 1860.  
" 6<sup>129</sup> Ellen S., b. Mar. 1, 1856.  
" 7<sup>129</sup> Abilene L., b. Nov. 4, 1858.  
" 8<sup>129</sup> Lydia A., b. Nov. 8, 1860.  
" 9<sup>129</sup> Francis Amos, b. Feb. 26, 1864.  
V 1<sup>129</sup> Maria, mar. Lorenzo D. Bevington, b. Mar. 4, 1843, d. April 20, 1901.  
VI 1<sup>130</sup> Orton Philip, b. Mar. 12, 1872, mar. Nettie Ainsworth.  
" 2<sup>130</sup> Mervin Henry, b. Mar. 21, 1874, mar. Mary M. Hart.  
" 3<sup>130</sup> John Carleton, b. July 9, 1877.  
" 4<sup>130</sup> Lorenzo Keller, b. Oct. 15, 1879, mar. Anna T. Anderson.  
" 5<sup>130</sup> Harold Paul, b. July 9, 1885, first child b. at Bucyrus, O., others at Bloomville, Ohio.  
V 2<sup>129</sup> Sabina E., mar. Leander Teel.  
VI 1<sup>131</sup> Henry Clay, b. Feb. 26, 1870.  
" 2<sup>131</sup> Esther Maria, b. Jan. 27, 1872, d. Dec. 8, 1891.  
" 3<sup>131</sup> Herbert Keller, b. Mar. 25, 1874.  
" 4<sup>131</sup> Gertrude Eleonora, b. May 4, 1876.  
" 5<sup>131</sup> Eric Philip, b. Sept. 18, 1878.  
" 6<sup>131</sup> Edna Elizabeth, b. Mar. 6, 1881.  
" 7<sup>131</sup> Henry Clay, mar. Mary K. Mengel, b. July 21, 1870.  
VII 1<sup>132</sup> Muriel Henrietta, b. Oct. 8, 1894.  
VII 2<sup>132</sup> Donald Philip, b. June 13, 1896.  
91) visited his fatherland, and died in Bath Widdungen, in Waldeck, July 14, was also buried there.  
IV, 6 (4<sup>128</sup>) Eli Keller, mar. Emma Julia, b. Feb. 25, 1837, youngest dau. of Rev. T. L. Hoffeditz, D. D. and wife, Julia Roth, b. Nov. 20, 1795, d. Jan. 8, 1860.  
V 1<sup>138</sup> Samuel, b. May, 8, 1858.  
" 2<sup>138</sup> Emelia, b. July 29, 1859.  
" 3<sup>138</sup> David, b. June 9, 1861.  
" 4<sup>138</sup> Frederick, b. Jan. 27, 1863.  
" 5<sup>138</sup> John Calvin, b. Dec. 29, 1864.  
" 6<sup>138</sup> Mary Julia, b. Aug. 19, 1866.  
" 7<sup>138</sup> William Albert, b. May 12, 1868, d. June 16, 1878.  
" 8<sup>138</sup> Idelette, b. Aug. 2, 1870, d. Aug. 15, 1870.  
All these were born in Ohio.  
V 1<sup>138</sup> Samuel, mar. Flora Ann, b. May 5, 1851, dau. of Reuben Neimeyer and wife, Lucy Ann, *nee* Wormkessel.  
VI 1<sup>139</sup> Beatus, (a son) b. April 14, 1889, d. April 15, 1889.  
" 2<sup>139</sup> Paul Eli, b. June 4, 1891.  
V 2<sup>138</sup> Emelia, mar. Wilson S. P. Schwartz, son of Francis Schwartz and Angeline, *nee* Egner.  
VI 1<sup>140</sup> Mark Keller, b. Jan. 6, 1886, d. May 21, 1886.  
" 2<sup>140</sup> Marie, b. Oct. 4, 1894.  
V 3<sup>138</sup> David, mar. Katie Sophia, b. Apr. 14, 1862, dau. of John Hersch and Maria, *nee* Gery.  
VI 1<sup>141</sup> Florence Gertrude, b. July 4, 1884.  
" 2<sup>141</sup> Irene Adele, b. Nov. 25, 1887.



- 3<sup>10</sup> David Hersch, b. May 20, 1895.  
 T 4<sup>11</sup> Frederick, mar. Anna May, b. March 10, 1863, dau. of Benj. O. Lecrone and wife, Minerva, *nee* Swander.  
 T 1<sup>12</sup> Bertha, b. July 25, 1887, in Kansas.  
 2<sup>12</sup> Howard Albert, b. Oct. 19, 1888, in Kansas.  
 3<sup>12</sup> Ralph Carleton, b. Sept. 16, 1893.  
 T 5<sup>13</sup> John Calvin, mar. Lillian, b. Mar. 21, 1868, dau. of Geo. Leibert and wife, Lydia Ann, *nee* Stern.  
 T 1<sup>13</sup> Ardie Ruth, b. Mar. 14, 1889, d. Feb. 20, 1890.  
 T 6<sup>13</sup> Mary Julia, mar. Mark Halbach, b. July 7, 1859, son of Chas. Halbach and wife, Isabella, *nee* Marx, d. Oct. 21, 1899.  
 M. I. (5<sup>12</sup>) Joel Frederick Keller, mar. Susannah, dau. of Christian Schaum and wife, Anna, *nee* Buzzard.  
 T 1<sup>14</sup> Christian Alfred, b. July 6, 1852.  
 2<sup>14</sup> Anna, b. June 11, 1854.  
 3<sup>14</sup> Mary Josephine, b. June 16, 1856.  
 4<sup>14</sup> Jacob Samuel, b. Feb. 15, 1859.  
 5<sup>14</sup> Clarissa Sabina, b. Jan. 6, 1862.  
 6<sup>14</sup> Ada Ellen, b. Apr. 25, 1866.  
 7<sup>14</sup> Milton Melanchthon, b. Apr. 26, 1874.  
 T 1<sup>14</sup> Christian Alfred, mar. Lilly May, b. Mar. 4, 1863, youngest dau. of Samuel and Nancy R. Gentner.  
 T 2<sup>14</sup> Anna, mar. Rev. Edward D. Wettach, D.D., b. May 5, 1852, son of Fred Wettach, of Berne, Switzerland, and wife, Magdalene, *nee* Brücker.

- IV. 8<sup>15</sup> Susannah Keller, mar. Joseph B. Shumaker, D. D., b. Aug. 20, 1838, son of Benjamin and Hannah Shumaker, of Fairfield Co., Ohio. (IV. 14)  
 T 1<sup>15</sup> Howard Keller, b. Aug. 26, 1871, in Canton, Ohio, mar. Austia Patterson in Canton, China, both being missionaries under the Board of the U. B. Church.  
 T 2<sup>15</sup> Claude Henry, b. Mar. 16, 1874, in Lancaster, Pa.  
 T 3<sup>15</sup> Anna Mary, b. May 9, 1877, also in Lancaster, Pa.

In this family of John H. Keller (III, 32) we find six ministers of "The Reformed Church in the U. S." and three physicians. Four of the former received the honorable title of D. D., and one of the latter had the Reverend added to the M. D. Of these members of our family, we will here give according to their age, some account.

#### VI.—BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES A.—FOURTH GENERATION

PHILIP KELLER (IV, 1) was born in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio with the exodus in 1856. He took charge of one of the large farms John Henry (III, 32) bought one mile northeast of Annapolis, (now Sulphur Springs.) He lived on the old farm till his son, John Henry (V, 6), married, then he moved just west of the Union Church. He has always been identified with farm life.

In connection with his family, he has always shown the liveliest interest in study. He was always back of his children in their school work,

- 1<sup>16</sup> Anna Gertrude, b. Nov. 17, 1880.  
 2<sup>16</sup> Florence Mabel, b. Sept. 23, 1882.  
 3<sup>16</sup> Mary, b. May 31, 1886, d. early.  
 4<sup>16</sup> Edward Keller, b. June 11, 1893.  
 T 3<sup>16</sup> Mary Josephine, mar. George P. Rader, b. Mar. 3, 1853.  
 VI 1<sup>16</sup> Dau., d.  
 2<sup>16</sup> Florence Elizabeth, b. Oct. 1, 1893.  
 T 4<sup>16</sup> Jacob Samuel, mar. Anna W. Smith, b. Mar. 9, 1867, dau. of John A. Smith and wife, Jamiima, *nee* Moderwell.  
 V 5<sup>16</sup> Clarissa Sobina, mar. Benjamin L. Norton, b. Nov. 11, 1859, son of Benjamin Norton and wife, Catharine, *nee* Emerick.  
 VI 1<sup>17</sup> Catharine Geneva, b. Aug. 16, 1884.  
 2<sup>17</sup> Keller Emerick, b. Nov. 17, 1885.  
 T 6<sup>16</sup> Ada Ellen, mar. William F. Fouse, b. Feb. 2, 1867, son of Frederick Fouse.  
 VI 1<sup>18</sup> Howard Keller, b. April 22, 1894.  
 2<sup>18</sup> James Kenneth, b. June 17, 1900, d. 1904.  
 T 7<sup>16</sup> Milton Melanchthon, mar. (first) Florence Mand Davidson, b. Feb. 21, 1877, d. Jan. 1, 1901, dau. of John H. Davidson and wife, Laura, *nee* Williams.  
 VI 1<sup>19</sup> Paul Davidson, b. 1896.  
 2<sup>19</sup> Laura Mauree, b. Mar. 3, 1899, d. Dec. 1902.  
 VI 7<sup>16</sup> Milton Melanchthon, mar. (second) Hattie Rader.  
 IV. 13 (7<sup>16</sup>) Joseph Allen Keller, mar. Sarah Kulp, b. Sept. 24, 1839, dau. of Rev. Joseph Kulp and wife, Sarah, *nee* Oberholtzar, of Wadsworth, Ohio.

helping them and encouraging them. If the subject was new, he would post up and "keep ahead" of their lessons.

He is now eighty-seven years old and his mind seems remarkably fresh. He has not lost his grip upon current events, nor has he laid aside his reading of religious and philosophical subjects. To speak with him for a few moments reveals that he is living strictly in the present.

He always took an active interest in church work, and is yet keeping in full touch with what is taking place in ecclesiastical bodies.

ANNA OSMAN KELLER (IV, 3), as spoken of elsewhere, was the Martha of the family. She has spent a great part of her life in Bucyrus, Ohio. Her home has always been the center to which all the friends desired to go, and did go. All have always been assured of a hearty, laughing and cheering welcome. Even, in her advanced age, she seems to pay very little attention to her age; for, when there is need for traveling, she seems to make it a very small burden.

Her mind also seems to be living in the immediate present. She takes the liveliest interest in current events and literature. She manifests a strong interest in the welfare of those whom she knows, and is ready to help by cheerful words of encouragement.

REV. ELI KELLER, D. D. (IV, 6), was fully twenty-five years of age when he started out in his distinct preparations for the holy ministry. (95)



96 He was born and brought up on the farm and was well trained in all the gymnastics of the farm-life of that day. As a teacher in public schools, and Sunday-schools also, he was not inferior. As a surveyor, draftsman and scribe, under his father's care and direction, he had before him a bright future. In the military line, he stood abreast with those of his official rank. Those, however, were not the things his aspirations were seeking.

In the Spring of 1851, he entered the Academy at Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa. in regular course; and a year later at Marshall College at the same place. He came to Lancaster in 1853 when that college was moved there and continued his studies in Franklin and Marshall College to the end of the Sophomore year; then returned to Mercersburg, and graduated from the Theological Seminary under Drs. Schaff and Wolff.

As a licentiate of Mercersburg Classis, he removed, with his parents' family, in the Spring of 1856, to Bucyrus, Ohio. The very first Sunday he preached there, and was elected pastor of the Bucyrus charge. The charge was later enlarged, northward and westward; and John Bippus, a Würtemberg Pietist, was his faithful assistant.

After five years, he was called to Bellevue, Ohio. That charge grew and later was divided, his brother Joseph receiving the older congregations. After eleven more years, he removed to Canal Winchester, Ohio, as pastor of that charge. After a year and a half, he was called back to Pennsylvania to the "Zionsville charge," consisting

keeping his home in perfect neatness, and keeping in touch with the events of the world.

REV. JOSEPH A. KELLER, D. D., (IV, 11) was a regular student in Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, and graduated in the Spring of 1861. In a letter to me, referring to his subsequent experiences as a soldier, he says: "Then my record runs in common with that of the brothers, Amos and Aaron, until Bragg's raid into Kentucky. Our forces hurried from Bridgeport on the Tennessee River, by way of Murfreesborough, and Nashville. When we reached Murfreesborough, I was worn out, and the next morning an ambulance brought me to one of the hospitals in Nashville. As I came into the ward, I overheard one say: 'There comes another, who will be carried out!'—or something to that effect, but it was not to be so." He was truly "worn out"—unable to do further service as a soldier, and was therefore discharged from that hospital in Nashville. He reached his parental home in Bucyrus just one week before the battle of Stone River. What a merciful Providence! Had he not been "worn out," he would have continued with the brothers, and most likely fared just as they did at the battle of Stone River.

Having recovered sufficiently, he entered the Theological Seminary at Tiffin, in the Fall of 1863, to prepare for the Gospel Ministry. He graduated in 1865. At that time the chair of ancient languages in the College became vacant, and he was called to fill the same, which he also did for more than six years. His health not being good, he

97 ing of but two congregations. However, circumstances were such, that two more congregations were added, so that the charge then embraced large portions of three counties. Various efforts were made by Classis to diminish the charge geographically, but without success. After twenty-seven years of hard labor, he resigned the whole charge, and removed to Allentown in 1901. As an assistant to the ministers of the eight Reformed churches in the city, and amid other labors, he expects to spend the evening of his life. Later he was appointed assistant editor of the Reformed "Kirchenzeitung," published in Cleveland, Ohio.

His official record to the present is this: Baptized, infants 1882, adults 33, total 1915; confirmed 1078; married 488 couples; buried 803.

JOEL FREDERICK KELLER (IV, 8) lived on one of the farms his father, John Henry (III, 32), bought after he moved from Pennsylvania. There Joel lived, his family and that of Philip, his brother, growing up into useful men and women. After a number of years he moved a mile south of Sulphur Springs to the William Musgrave farm. Then a short time later moved to a small farm a few rods south-east of the Musgrave farm, where he is living a retired life. He also shows the most intense interest in the questions of the day. His home is a place to which all go for a pleasant and happy hour. While his health forced him out of his chosen work, that of a miller, he was always an untiring worker upon the farm. Now he is resigned June 1871, and entered the Gospel Ministry. He was licensed by Tiffin Classis at Liberty Center, Henry Co., Ohio, and a call to him from Zions Charge (referred to above) was confirmed. Subsequently, he was also ordained in Salem Church, Adams Township, Seneca Co., Ohio, by a committee of Tiffin Classis, consisting of Prof. R. Good, and Rev. L. H. Kefauver, D. D. At the urgent request of the Board of Home Missions (Dr. J. H. Good, Pres.) he resigned his charge, and went as missionary to the city of Denver, Colorado, commencing his labors there, April 19, 1874. He returned from Denver, Jan. 1, 1879, to Hartville, O. That field he occupied till Oct. 11, 1899, when he moved to Alliance, Ohio, where he has had, up to this time, the care of a single congregation, composed almost exclusively of Swiss.

SUSANNAH KELLER SHUMAKER (IV, 13) early went to Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio. There she gained that preparation which has so well fitted her for the work that naturally falls to the wife of a pastor. Those who know her recognize that she is a very safe adviser. Her opinions are often sought by those who are associated with her in the work of the church. She is constantly found active in the various organizations and legislative bodies of the Reformed Church.

Her home is one to which all long to go, for there the influence of her kind geniality is felt at once.

REV. JOSEPH B. SHUMAKER, D. D., (IV, 14) graduated in the classical course in Heidelberg



100 College, Tiffin, Ohio, June, 1865; and having also pursued Theological studies in his senior year, graduated from the Theological Seminary at the same place, in Dec., 1866. He was licensed to the Gospel Ministry in the Reformed Church in the U. S. by Miami Classis of the Synod of Ohio, and ordained Jan. 20, 1867.

He commenced his ministerial labors in Bethel Charge, near Dayton, Ohio, Jan. 1, 1867; in second charge, Manchester, Summit Co., Ohio, near Akron, May 1, 1870; in third charge, Canton, Ohio, April 1, 1871; in fourth charge, St. Pauls, Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 1, 1886. He moved to Tiffin, Ohio, Aug. 1, 1889; served as supply in different congregations, and then for nearly two years, as Financial Secretary of Heidelberg College. His fifth charge was Zions, Clyde, Ohio. He entered regularly as pastor, Sept. 2, 1902. He received the title of D. D. from Ursinus College, July 2, 1879.

#### VII.—BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

##### B.—FIFTH GENERATION

MARIA KELLER BEVINGTON (V, 1), oldest child of Philip and Hannah Keller, was born in Northampton Co., Pa. She lived with her parents on their Ohio farm until she married Mr. L. M. Bevington, a school teacher and druggist. She lived at Bloomville, O., for a number of years, then moved to Hicksville, O., where the family resided till her death.

SABINA E. KELLER THEL (V, 3) was also brought up on the farm; married Leander Teel, a

101 FRANCIS AMOS KELLER (V, 13) spent his early days with his father upon the farm. He attended the home school and made rapid progress in his studies. He taught school for many years. Although he has settled down to farming as his life-work, the habit of reading and studying has never left him. Very rarely is there such a large and carefully chosen library, as his, found in a country home.

SAMUEL KELLER (V, 15), the oldest child of Rev. Eli Keller, was born at Bucyrus, Ohio. He has occupied very honorable stations in the church and held very responsible and lucrative positions in connection with certain manufacturing establishments at Marion and Bellevue, Ohio. At present he is superintendent of The Ohio Cultivator Works, a plant of large capacity and wide reputation, at Bellevue. His life has been preeminently one of business. He has the executive temperament. Hence, he always finds himself devoted to the management of enterprises.

EMELIA KELLER SCHWARTZ (V, 17) married Wilson S. P. Schwartz. She has lived near the old home almost her entire life. She has thrown all her powers into her home to make it what a home should be.

DAVID H. M. D., (V, 19) and JOHN CALVIN KELLER, M. D., (V, 23) were born in Ohio and brought to Pennsylvania. Both returned to their native State, and graduated in the Columbus Medical College, in the capital of the State—the

school teacher and attorney. She is the mother of an excellent family of children. She is now caring for her aged aunt, Mrs. Anna Keller Osman, at the latter's home in Bucyrus, Ohio.

JOHN HENRY KELLER (V, 6) was one of the best known and one of the most useful and most influential members of the western branch of the Keller family. He was for a score or so of years one of the most successful school teachers in Crawford and adjoining counties, raiser of special strains of stock, member of the County Agricultural Society, prominent in the Sunday-school work of his county and township and having been called from time to time to the honor and responsibility of about all official positions in the local Sunday-school and church. But his sun went down at the noonday of his excellent and useful life.

ELLEN S. KELLER (V, 9) gave much of her life to teaching. She attained marked success in Primary Department work. Since her school days, she has been devoting her life to the care and comfort of her aged parents.

ABILENE L. KELLER (V, 10) and LYDIA A. KELLER ACKERMAN (V, 11) are the two youngest of the children of Philip and Hannah Keller. The former has given most of her attention to dress-making, but has her home with her parents. The latter married Charles S. Ackerman and is living near the old homestead.

former in the year 1882, the latter in 1886. Both returned to the original home of the Keller family in Pennsylvania—the older to Bangor, the younger to the Wind Gap, only five miles apart. They succeeded in establishing themselves, not only in that community, but also in the confidence of the people. Thus they are occupying, in their profession, the very territory where their ancestors, to the third generation, had lived, labored, and many of them died; where their grandfather, in his time, had carried his faithful compass for many years over hill and mountain, hunting up old corners and landmarks and establishing new ones; where he settled up many estates of those who were called from time to eternity. When and where the name of the family was passing into forgetfulness, they revived and perpetuated the same, holding and following the great mission: To remove sickness and pain, and restore the inhabitants, if possible, to health and happiness.

REV. FREDERICK H. KELLER, A. M., (V, 21) had a thorough classical and Theological training—first in the Perkiomen Seminary, at Penusburg, Pennsylvania; then in Ursinus College, at Collegeville, Pennsylvania. He studied Theology in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the U. S. at Tiffin, Ohio. After his graduation, he was licensed and ordained to the Gospel Ministry of said Church, by Tiffin Classis, Synod of Ohio, at Fostoria, Ohio, May 30, 1886. The Board of Home Missions of said Synod ap-



pointed him as missionary to Wathena, Kansas.  
104 He entered that field in June, 1886.

After more than three years of labor, he received and accepted a call from Fireside, Ohio, and entered upon the labors of that field, January, 1890. He was then called to Petersburg, Ohio, and went there in April, 1893. In January of 1896, he followed a call to Orrville, Ohio; and after another pastorate of three years, in November, 1899, he came to Hartville, Ohio. At Fireside, he was in the footsteps of his father and of his uncle, Joseph A. Keller, D. D. Thus, "One soweth, and another reapeth"—John 4:37.

MARY JULIA KELLER HALBACH (V, 25) has had the opportunity of taking care of her aged parents. Her husband, Dr. Halbach, lived but a short time after her marriage. Since then she has been again devoting her life to her parents.

CHRISTIAN ALFRED KELLER (V, 29) is the first-born of Joel F. and Susannah Keller; was brought up on the farm; taught school several terms; married Miss Lillie M. Gentner, a teacher in the Greenville, Ohio, public school for years. He has for many years been in the mercantile business, and at present is a partner in the firm of O. & C. Keller, at Sulphur Springs, Ohio.

ANNA KELLER WETTACH (V, 31) taught several terms in the schools near home. Married Rev. E. D. Wettach, D. D. As is incident to a minister's life, they have lived at various places. Their present residence is Youngstown, Ohio.

MARY JOSEPHINE KELLER RADER (V, 33) was reared on the farm; taught school; married Mr. George P. Rader, who is a very skilled mechanic, but for a number of years has been in the hardware business in the town of Sulphur Springs, Ohio.

JACOB SAMUEL KELLER (V, 35) spent his young days on the farm and also taught school for a number of years. At present is partner with his brother-in-law, G. P. Rader, in the hardware business.

CLARISSA SOBINA KELLER NORTON (V, 37) married Mr. B. L. Norton of Reedsburg, Ohio, where Mr. Norton was in the mercantile business. The husband died before he had even reached the prime of life, after which the wife, with her children, moved to Sulphur Springs and is now making her home with her parents.

ADA ELLEN KELLER FOUSE (V, 39) married Mr. Wm. F. Fouse, an attorney. They are living at Akron, Ohio, where the husband is engaged in his profession, the practice of law. Mr. Fouse is a graduate of Wooster University, Wooster, Ohio. He, with his wife, is actively connected with the work of the Reformed Church at Akron, Ohio.

MILTON MELANCHTHON KELLER (V, 41) attended the home school and also pursued studies for a short time at Heidelberg University. He has developed into a very skilled carpenter. This trade he is now pursuing at Sulphur Springs, Ohio.

REV. HOWARD KELLER SHUMAKER, M. D., (V, 44), was a close and diligent student from his

REV. E. D. WETTACH, D.D., (V, 32) is of Swiss parentage, but was born in this country. He graduated from Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, in 1875 and from the Theological Seminary, at the same place, in 1877. He was licensed to the holy ministry the same year by the Ohio Synod, at Orville, Ohio. Soon after, he received and accepted a call from Broken Sword (now Sulphur Springs) charge and was ordained to the Gospel Ministry in the Reformed Church in the U. S. at Crestline, Ohio, in the Fall of the same year. After two years of labor, he received and accepted a call from Reedsburg, Ohio, where he spent, as he says, "five happy years." In 1884, he accepted a call from St. Matthews, Chester Co., Pa. In 1890, under the direction of the Board of Home Missions, he removed to Akron, Ohio, where he organized a new congregation, and met with great success. In 1894, the Regents of Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, called him to the office of Financial Secretary, in which capacity he labored four years and a half. In 1899, he accepted a call from Sycamore, Ohio, a newly organized charge. After another year of labor, the Board of Home Missions sent him to Toledo, to organize and establish an English congregation in that city. Of his labors there he himself says: "A beautiful stone chapel has been built, Grace Reformed Church organized, and the beginning toward a self-supporting congregation made, in this growing city by the lake." He is now serving a pastorate in Youngstown, Ohio.

youth. At Collegeville, Pa., he was matriculated as a classical student in Ursinus College; later, in Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, where he graduated. After that, he gave his attention to medicine, and entered The Starling School of Medicine, Columbus, Ohio, and graduated March, 1894. For awhile, he assisted Dr. Heckerman, in Tiffin, in his practice. He prosecuted the profession by himself at Old Fort, near Tiffin. So far as making a living, and even a good one (as the world terms it) was concerned, he had no cause for discouragement. There was, however, to his mind an infinitely higher and nobler calling than the one he had espoused even as the soul of man is of more value than the body. To that higher calling he commenced to look forward and upward with strong aspiration; it was nothing less than to be a medical missionary among the poor and neglected heathen. He first tendered his services to the Board of Foreign Missions of his own church, the Reformed, but the necessary means to send him forth at that time were not at hand. Next, he made application to the like Board of the U. B. Church, and received his commission in the Summer of 1897 to go to the millions of China. On October 20 of the same year, he already sailed, reaching Hong Kong at the gate of China, November 19 following. The center of his labors seems to be the city of Canton. Through all the terrible "Boxer-troubles," when many missionaries fled for safety, he stood his ground, unalarmed and unharmed, and was always, as appears from his letters, of the very best cheer.



## CHAPTER XVII

JACOB KELLER

JACOB KELLER (2<sup>nd</sup>—III, 34), the younger of the two remaining sons of Philip Keller, Sr. (II, 11), grew up on the farm, and found plenty of material to employ both mind and body. In physique, he was a true type of the old Keller family—of heavy build, and if he had any special trouble as to his form, it was that his head was always a trifle too large for the largest hat. He was fond of the farm, and of farm life in all its variations. If he was especially interested in any farm tool, it was the ax. Of all such who ever gained skill in handling the ax, he stood in the front rank, not even excepting Lord Gladstone of England nor Abraham Lincoln of America. His older brother having moved away, and his father being too corpulent to do much physical work, the management of the large farm rested mainly on his shoulders. He married Elizabeth Shook (III, 35), daughter of a near neighbor, Jacob Shook. She was almost seven years younger than himself. Thus his sphere was the farm, where there was much room for the use of the ax, the mattock, the plow, and the team. The mill property was now in the hands of the older brother; yet not a little of it was used in common—such as the sawmill, limekiln, blacksmith shop, and even the gristmill. The blacksmith shop was for years in the care of Joseph Engler, brother-in-law of Jacob's brother, John Henry (III, 32), and

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later, for many years, in the care of Peter Shook, his own brother-in-law. In those early years, the old second house was removed, and a large two-story stone house with a cellar-kitchen was built. So that father and son, with their two families, could live together comfortably. In 1826 (as stated before), the father moved to the Delaware. Peter Shook, his brother-in-law, lived with him; so did, later, John Kratzer, another brother-in-law; also, yet later, his son-in-law, Abraham Bower; and finally, his own son Joseph.

The picture of the Old Home is a pleasant one. There was much meadowland, with rivulets of fresh water running through perennially. One was called Long-Meadow ("Lang Schwamm"), curving in a large semi-circle around a prominent hill, in the very center of the farm, with a round top, known as Jacob's Head ("Jake's Kop"). The land was adapted specially to rye and buckwheat. There was much fruit—apples, pears, plums, peaches. There were also walnuts, hickory-nuts, and especially chestnuts. Nearly all these trees were of their own planting. Four or more heavy black horses were in the stable or out at work; a large herd of cows and young cattle could be seen somewhere; a flock of sheep, plenty of chickens, turkeys, and geese could also be seen.

For "rod and gun" there was plenty of temptation for some; but to my knowledge, neither the one nor the other had any special charms for Jacob.

His wife, "Aunt Betz," was a motherly matron of rare excellency. For about fifteen years our two

families lived side by side, but later a half a mile apart. I never saw a frown on her countenance, nor, on the other hand, undue hilarity. Her object always seemed to be to please. We children, coming in contact with her, as we often did, always found her ready to deal out to us with both hands the very best she had. Her "pieces" (lunches) were always cut according to a liberal pattern. Her memory to all who knew her will always be an abiding benediction.

2<sup>nd</sup> Jacob Keller, b. Dec. 21, 1787, d. April 25, 1875, mar. Elizabeth Shook, b. July 11, 1794, d. Oct. 23, 1880.

1<sup>st</sup> Sarah, b. May 2, 1819, d. Oct. 29, 1888.

2<sup>nd</sup> Joseph, b. Dec. 20, 1820, d. April 29, 1889.

3<sup>rd</sup> Rebecca, b. Aug. 21, 1823, d. Nov. 9, 1903.

## I.—GENEALOGICAL TABLE

1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Keller, mar. Abraham Bower, b. June 26, 1818, d. Jan. 5, 1900.

1<sup>st</sup> Malinda, b. April 21, 1841, d. Feb. 29, 1904.

2<sup>nd</sup> Emma Elizabeth, b. Oct. 8, 1842.

3<sup>rd</sup> Uriah B., b. Jan. 27, 1844, d. Oct. 9, 1897.

4<sup>th</sup> John Henry, b. Mar. 28, 1846.

5<sup>th</sup> Tilghman, b. Dec. 28, 1847, d. Feb. 3, 1852.

6<sup>th</sup> Jacob, b. May 17, 1850, d. May 18, 1894.

7<sup>th</sup> Catharine, b. Feb. 6, 1852.

8<sup>th</sup> David D., b. Mar. 30, 1854, d. Aug. 8, 1854, buried at Plainfield Church, Pa.

9<sup>th</sup> Reuben Thomas, b. Sept. 8, 1855.

10<sup>th</sup> Alice J., b. Sept. 25, 1857, d. April 16, 1888.

11<sup>th</sup> Anna Laura, b. Aug. 19, 1859.



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- 12<sup>162</sup> Mary Ellen, b. Jan. 2, 1863.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Malinda, mar. Levi S. Burroughs, b. Mar. 3, 1838.  
 1<sup>162</sup> James Lucius, b. Dec. 11, 1868, d.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Edgar Allen, b. Oct. 5, 1870, mar. Addie M. Douglas.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Howard Douglas, b. Aug. 29, 1901.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Ralph Bowers, b. June 13, 1872, d.  
 4<sup>162</sup> Ross Gordon, b. Feb. 21, 1874.  
 5<sup>162</sup> Mary Gertrude, b. May 21, 1878, mar. S. W. Settles.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Emma E., mar. William Flavien, b. Nov. 22, 1842, d. Sept. 16, 1896.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Grace Ellen, b. Dec. 3, 1872, mar. Harvey Earl Hirn, b. Mar. 16, 1869.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Margaret Elizabeth, b. Aug. 12, 1898.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Edward Bower, b. Nov. 3, 1875, mar. Ella Converse.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Mildred, b. April 29, 1900, at Silver Lake, Ind.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Maude Mitchel, b. June 15, 1879.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Uriah B., mar. (first) Martha Boeman.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Infant.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Jemima, mar. John O'Leary.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Vaughn.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Rhea.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Uriah B., mar. (second) Alice A. Sprague.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Madge Alice, b. June 28, 1881, mar. Harry L. Martin.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Cyril Baird, b. Dec. 5, 1900.  
 4<sup>162</sup> Don Sprague, b. June 10, 1887.
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- 1<sup>162</sup> Helen May, b. Dec. 14, 1894.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Robert Bower, b. June 22, 1878, mar. Bertha M. Mitchell.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Dorothy Jeannette.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Amy Jeannette, b. Feb. 2, 1882, d. Sept. 6, 1902.  
 9<sup>162</sup> Reuben Thomas, mar. Josephine M. Markley.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Nellie Eveline, b. April 21, 1877, mar. Manley C. Fuller.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Walter Scott, b. April 3, 1878.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Roy Markley, b. June 27, 1881.  
 4<sup>162</sup> Clara Ethel, b. June 23, 1883.  
 5<sup>162</sup> Myrtle May, b. Sept. 6, 1884.  
 6<sup>162</sup> Archie Earle, b. Oct. 13, 1885.  
 7<sup>162</sup> Ralph Dwight, b. Dec. 31, 1886.  
 8<sup>162</sup> Ray Elwood, b. July 10, 1889.  
 9<sup>162</sup> Clyde Keller, b. April 29, 1891.  
 10<sup>162</sup> Grace Stough, b. June 8, 1892.  
 11<sup>162</sup> Glen E., b. April 1, 1894, d. Dec. 18, '02.  
 12<sup>162</sup> Edith Esther, b. May 17, 1897, d. Aug. 5, 1904.  
 10<sup>162</sup> Alice J., mar. Frank M. Hess.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Mabel E., b. Aug. 16, 1886.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Alice J., b. April 10, 1888.  
 11<sup>162</sup> Anna Laura, mar. David Robinson. Lives in California.  
 12<sup>162</sup> Mary Ellen, mar. Daniel Upton Bair, Lutheran minister.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Myrtle E., b. June 28, 1884, d. Aug. 6, 1884.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Mona B., b. Oct. 1, 1885, d. Oct. 15, '85.
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- 5<sup>162</sup> Ruth Frances, b. Aug. 26, 1889.  
 4<sup>162</sup> John Henry, mar. Mary A. Hess.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Jessie E., b. Dec. 20, 1868, mar. W. F. Philips.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Roger Philips, b. Sept. 8, 1889.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Homer A., b. Sept. 4, 1870, mar. Delia I. Hall.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Leslie G., b. Aug. 28, 1895.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Lynn A., b. Feb. 10, 1897. Bangor Mich.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Rodric B., b. Oct. 10, 1872. Seattle.  
 4<sup>162</sup> Guy H., b. Sept. 27, 1874, mar. Nellie M. Buck.  
 5<sup>162</sup> Archer A., b. June 10, 1876, mar. Ella Johnson.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Rodric B., b. Oct. 24, 1901.  
 6<sup>162</sup> Lloyd I., b. July 8, 1878, d. April 15, 1880.  
 6<sup>162</sup> Jacob, mar. Ella Jones.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Clara May, b. April 9, 1882, mar. Harmon Albert Van Horn, b. Apr. 4, 1878.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Carmen Ferol, b. June 5, 1900.  
 2<sup>162</sup> Ronald Marine, b. Aug. 17, 1902, Matthews, Ind.  
 2<sup>162</sup> James, b. Dec. 10, 1883, d. Feb. 12, '90.  
 3<sup>162</sup> Ralph, b. Aug. 23, 1885.  
 4<sup>162</sup> Lena, b. July 5, 1890.  
 5<sup>162</sup> Edna, b. June 12, 1892.  
 7<sup>162</sup> Catharine S., mar. Thomas Heller, b. Mar. 12, 1845.  
 1<sup>162</sup> Bertha Sarah, b. Dec. 24, 1873, mar. W. F. Farst.
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- 3<sup>172</sup> Schafer Bowers, b. April 14, 1887.  
 4<sup>172</sup> Sarah Elizabeth, b. June 25, 1888.  
 5<sup>172</sup> Ruth Emeline, b. Aug. 5, 1894.  
 2<sup>161</sup> Joseph Keller, mar. Lovina Kline, b. Feb. 24, 1822, d. July 28, 1899, dau. of Jacob Kline and wife, Eve.  
 1<sup>172</sup> Oliver Jacob, b. July 28, 1843.  
 2<sup>172</sup> Jeremiah, b. Jan. 16, 1845. Easton, Pa.  
 3<sup>172</sup> Josiah, b. Oct. 14, 1846, d. Oct. 7, 1900.  
 V, 76 (4<sup>172</sup>) Reuben, b. Jan. 13, 1848, d. May 3, 1905.  
 5<sup>172</sup> Mary Catharine, b. Jan. 11, 1850, d. Sept. 15, 1864.  
 6<sup>172</sup> John Henry, b. Sept. 11, 1851, d. Oct. 7, '64.  
 7<sup>172</sup> A dau., b. Aug. 1, 1853, d. Sept. 1, 1853.  
 8<sup>172</sup> William Wesley, b. Sept. 4, 1854, d. Aug. 9, 1855.  
 9<sup>172</sup> Emma Elizabeth, b. May 1, 1856, d. Oct. 3, 1864.  
 10<sup>172</sup> Matilda Alice, b. Dec. 5, 1858, d. Sept. 28, 1864.  
 V, 84 (11<sup>172</sup>) Albert David, b. Jan. 2, 1866. ←  
 All these b. in Pa., except last two.  
 1<sup>172</sup> Oliver Jacob, his war record follows below.  
 2<sup>172</sup> Jeremiah, mar. Sobina Werkheiser, b. Jan. 22, 1844, d. Dec. 4, 1900.  
 1<sup>172</sup> Jennie Amanda, b. April 20, 1878, d. May 4, 1878.  
 2<sup>172</sup> John Abraham, b. April 17, 1880.  
 3<sup>172</sup> Helen May, b. Oct. 23, 1884.  
 3<sup>172</sup> Josiah, mar. Margaret J. Reynolds, b. Mar. 1, 1846.



- <sup>117</sup> Lillie Doane, b. Dec. 22, 1872, mar. Charles R. Ogden, b. July 20, 1870.  
<sup>117</sup> Adele, b. Dec. 29, 1902.  
<sup>217</sup> Robert Keller, b. Mar. 27, 1904.  
<sup>217</sup> Lovina Bowden, b. April 7, 1877, d. Nov. 30, 1879.  
<sup>317</sup> Manelva Wylie, b. Jan. 8, 1880.  
<sup>417</sup> Claudius Argyle, b. Sept. 23, 1882.  
<sup>517</sup> Blaine Reynolds, b. Oct. 14, 1885.

V 76(417) Reuben, mar. Mary Emily Musgrave, b. Feb. 10, 1851, dau. of Horatio Nelson Musgrave and wife, Mary Smith.

V 84(1117) Albert David, mar. Addie Florence Keller, b. Mar. 30, 1871, daughter of Amos Keller and wife, Martha Sneath.  
<sup>117</sup> Rowland Sneath, b. Dec. 1, 1904.

## II.—BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

### A.—FOURTH GENERATION

SARAH KELLER BOWER (IV, 15) was born in Pennsylvania. Before their removal to Ohio in 1857 she and her husband Abraham Bower lived on a farm north of "Jake's Kop." When Jacob moved west in 1857 Sarah came also. Her father bought a farm a very short distance west of Annapolis. Here she lived till she moved to the village of Annapolis. There, surrounded by her family, she lived till her death. She was of an amiable disposition. All who knew her loved her for her kindness. She was unassuming toward all who came into her home, and was never known for having much to say.

took him from his work and family in a very few months.

LOVINA KLINE KELLER (IV, 18) was born near the First Keller Home in "Plainfield." She shared the hard and trying times that naturally came to all those, we love, in the days of making homes. When she sent her two oldest sons to the war; when she buried one son and her three daughters (the only daughters) in three weeks, many thought that she would break down beneath the load. Calmly, quietly, and with a faith that did not waver for one single moment did she stand out before all who knew her as an example of Christian strength. Thus did she live all her life.

REBRECCA KELLER (IV, 19) was born a healthy and vigorous babe, but in her childhood, a very sad and painful accident of indescribable consequence befell her. She fell into a vessel of hot water. The direct bodily consequences, by and by were entirely overcome, but her spasmodic convulsions largely arrested the development of her mind. In a certain sense, to her old age, she remained a child. Her favorite companions were little children, drawn to her by natural affinity. And yet, she had a remarkable memory, taking note of all that passed around her. If matters of news were related, and blunders made, she would at once make the necessary corrections. She was in this world a latent bud; but what the flower will be in the Paradise under the care of the Heavenly Gardener, can only there and then be known.

ABRAHAM BOWER (IV, 16) was the son of Abraham Bower, Sr. By trade, he was a tailor, and well adapted to that trade. He was also a farmer both in Pennsylvania and Ohio. In the years of military volunteer companies, he was a noted and favorite fifer. Daniel Heller, of Wind Gap, Pennsylvania, relates how Abraham quit playing martial music for the companies. "At a training, Mr. B. handed me his fife with the request, 'play once.' So I played a few pieces, then handed the fife back. But he refused and said, 'You keep it.' So I did."

JOSEPH KELLER (IV, 17) was an only son. His traits of character suggest the Shook type. When Joseph was yet young, his father, as he well might, entrusted to him largely the care and management of the farm. He was preeminently a man of action. There appeared about him something stern; yet, at heart, he was kind and affectionate. The removal of the whole family from the First Keller Home in Pennsylvania to Ohio fell largely upon him and was successfully carried out.

Then he lived upon a farm three miles northeast of Annapolis, now Sulphur Springs. There he lived till he moved to Sulphur Springs to care for his aged parents. There he continued to live till the time of his death. But he never quit working on the old farm—then occupied by his son Josiah (V, 74)—till he died.

In constitution he was vigorous to the point of wonder. He was never sick and knew no aches nor pains till disease finally settled upon him and

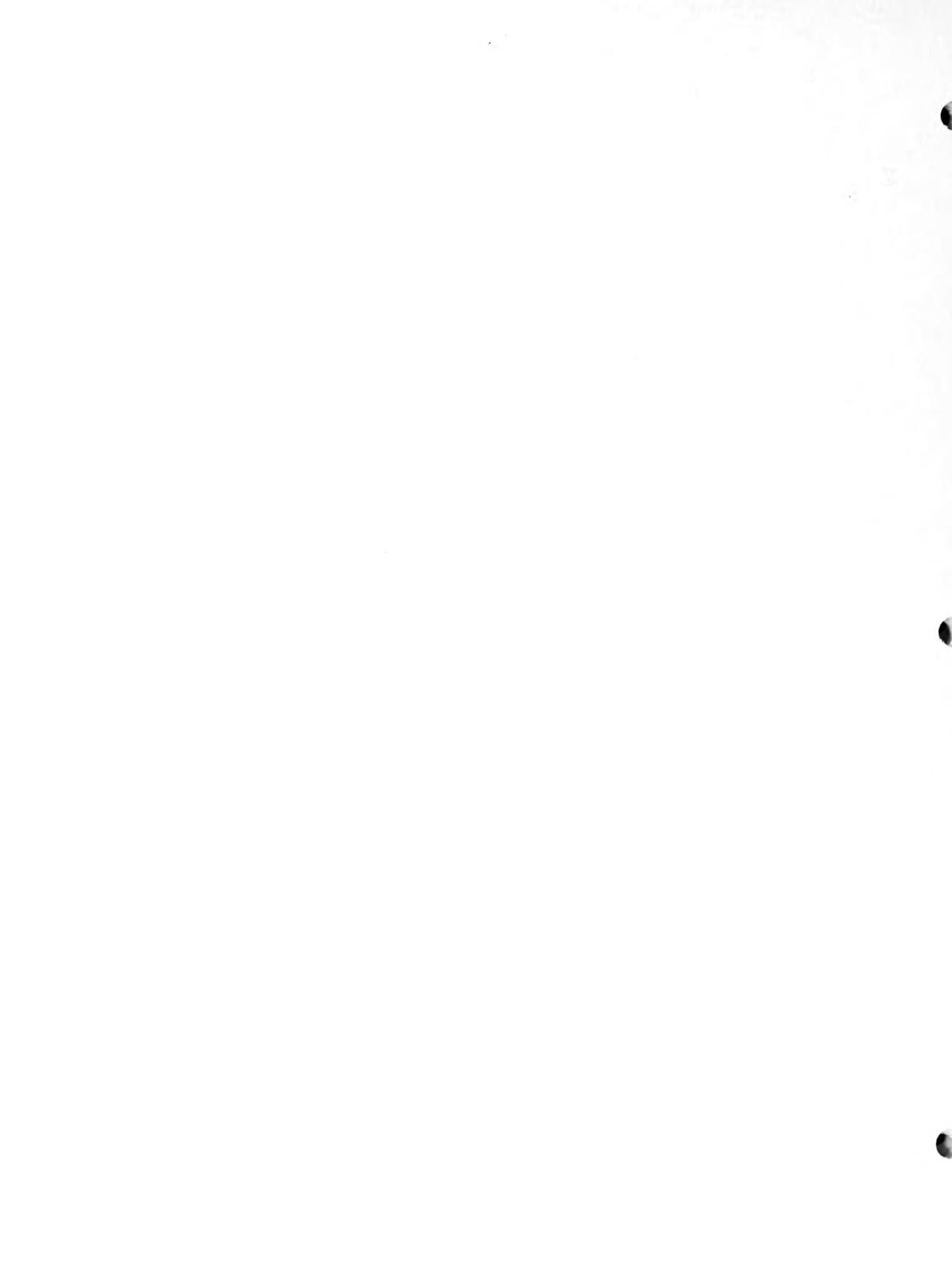
## III.—BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

### B.—FIFTH GENERATION

MALINDA BOWER BURROUGHS (V, 48) was the oldest of the family of Abraham and Sarah Bower. She was jovial, quick-witted and had a good fund of natural talent. She remained at home till grown to maturity, then went to the oil field of Pennsylvania where she married Mr. Levi S. Burroughs, a blacksmith by trade and also a veteran of the Civil War. They lived at Sulphur Springs and also at Tiro, Ohio. She died at the latter place and her remains are buried in the Union Cemetery near Sulphur Springs.

EMMA ELIZABETH BOWER FLAVIEN (V, 50) married William Flavien, a native of North Sidney, Nova Scotia. Mr. Flavien was a soldier in the Civil War, Co. H, 65th O. V. I. He first read medicine under a private tutor, but later graduated from Toledo, Ohio, Medical College, and then for a number of years practiced medicine and did a thriving business as a druggist at Paulding, Ohio. Since the decease of the husband, the widow has continued her residence at Paulding.

URIAH B. BOWER (V, 52), after his return home from the war, clerked in a store at Sulphur Springs; also later, worked in the provision store of J. J. Boeman at Bucyrus, married Mr. Boeman's daughter and moved farther west. Being somewhat of an unsettled disposition, he did not remain long at one place. He was engaged in the real estate and insurance business mainly. The



120 first wife died and a Miss Sprague became his second wife. He last resided at South McAlester, Indian Territory, where he died. His remains rest at McAlester, I. T.

JOHN HENRY BOWER (V, 55), after the war, gave some attention to farming, but devoted most of his time to painting at his home in Sulphur Springs, Ohio. He moved to Michigan, where he is living with his family.

JACOB BOWER (V, 58), also a painter by trade for a number of years, lived at his home in Sulphur Springs. He then lived in Paulding, Ohio, where he continued his trade. He was given an appointment on the Paulding police force. In this work he was especially efficient, on account of his intelligence and bravery.

CATHARINE S. BOWER HELLER (V, 60) attended the school at Sulphur Springs and remained with her parents until her marriage. Her husband, Thomas Heller, is a veteran of the Civil War. He is a painter, paper hanger and decorator. The family have had their residence in Akron, Ohio, for many years. The entire family are active workers in the Reformed Church in that city.

REUBEN THOMAS BOWER (V, 63), as the family tree shows, has the largest family in our whole group of families. He has been carrying on the drug business in Petoskey and Detroit; Mich., with excellent success. He is at present residing in Detroit. Not content with merely selling drugs,

whose acquaintance he made while she was teaching school in the community. Soon after the marriage, his parents moved to the village of Sulphur Springs to assume the care of the grandparents, Jacob and Elizabeth Keller. From that time till a short time before his death, he occupied the old home farm.

REV. REUBEN KELLER, D. D., (V, 76) attended common schools, both in Pennsylvania and in Ohio. He did considerable clerking, and also teaching. He took the classical course of studies in Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, and obtained thus the degree of A. B. in June, 1873. He graduated from the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church, also at Tiffin, in 1877. He was examined and licensed, by Tiffin Classis, at Bloomville, August 25, 1877. On October 19 following, he was ordained to the Gospel Ministry, by the officers of the St. Joseph's Classis, at Goshen, Indiana.

He served the following charges: Neriah, Michigan, 1877-82; New Jefferson, Ohio, 1882-91; West Alexandria, Ohio, 1891-98; was Sunday-school missionary of St. Joseph's Classis, 1898-1901; served the Lindsey, Ohio, charge from 1901 to his death; was President of Ohio Synod, 1902-3; was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Heidelberg Theological Seminary in 1890, and President of that Board in 1893; was also a member of the Committee to compile the Sunday-school Hymnal, for the use of the Reformed Church in the U. S. While vigorously pursuing his duties, death

he has made a success of making and putting upon the markets medicines of his own.

ALICK J. BOWER HESS (V, 65) married Mr. Frank Hess and lived near Sulphur Springs until her death.

MARY ELLEN BOWER BAIR (V, 69), the youngest member of the family of Sarah Keller Bower, attended the public school at Sulphur Springs and afterward successfully taught a nearby country school. She married Rev. D. U. Bair, a minister of the General Synod Lutheran Church. Among the places where the Rev. Bair has served as pastor are Constantine, Mich., Belleville, Mifflin Co., Pa., and Harrisburg, Pa. Her aged father, Abraham Bower, for whom she was caring in his last days, died at her home in Belleville.

OLIVER JACOB KELLER (V, 71), after his discharge from the army, clerked in a store at Sulphur Springs. After this, he was a partner with Mr. A. J. Scott in another store in the same town. And now for many years has been partner with C. A. Keller, in a third place of business, in general merchandise in the same village.

JEREMIAH KELLER (V, 72), after his return from the army, worked some on the farm. Afterward he took up the painter's trade which he has followed to the present time. He is now residing on College Hill, Easton, Pa.

JOSIAH KELLER (V, 74) worked for his father on the farm, married Miss Margaret J. Reynolds,

came to him and took him, after an illness of three days.

PROF. ALBERT D. KELLER, A. M., (V, 84) was born on the farm, and made good use of all the early school privileges—common and high school; graduated from Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, in June, 1893, securing the degree of A. B.; pursued graduate work in English and Economics in Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tennessee, 1893-95, and obtained the degree of A. M.; spent one year, 1894, in that University as Assistant in English; represented the University, also 1894, in the Tennessee "Bunker's Association" at Lookout Mountain; pursued graduate work in the University of Chicago, 1895; was elected to the chair of English and Economics in Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, in June, 1896, and entered upon the work September following.

Of this—the Joseph Keller—family, two died in early infancy. Also as this history elsewhere relates, while the Civil War was in progress and for some years claimed the services of the two older ones, the ravages of a malignant type of diphtheria swept away the *youngest four* of the six children at home (Mary, John, Emma and Matilda) in the brief space of three weeks.

#### IV.—THE PART TAKEN IN THE REBELLION

This branch of the Keller family did not fall short in patriotism at the time when men's hearts were tried. Four grandsons of Jacob Keller



(III, 34) entered the army. All were mercifully preserved to return, crowned with victory and glory, to those left at home. All enlisted from Ohio. There were two Keller brothers, and two Bower brothers; but they paired off contrary to consanguinity, and two were O. V. I., and the other two O. V. C. Thus:

#### A.—FIRST PAIR

Oliver J. Keller (V, 71) and Uriah B. Bower (V, 52) enlisted August 15, 1861, in Company C, 49th Reg., O. V. I., at Camp Noble, Tiffin, Ohio; were mustered out at Victoria, Texas, November 30, 1865; reached home New Year's Day, 1866.

At the battle of Stone River, Tennessee, December 31, 1862, both were made prisoners and taken to Richmond, Virginia, and held at Castle Thunder about five months, and in Libby Prison about eleven days. They were then exchanged, and returned to their Regiment. Keller was advanced from a private to a Corporal, June 7, 1863, and to Sargeant February 1, 1864.

They shared the following battles: Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Liberty Gap, Chicamauga, Mission Ridge, Siege of Atlanta, etc. After the War, they marched under orders (as a side issue) to the borders of Mexico to cast in their weight against the Maximilian insurrection.

#### B.—SECOND PAIR

Jeremiah Keller (V, 72) and John H. Bower (V, 55) both enlisted at Mansfield, O., the latter, on

October 18, 1862, and the former, October 25, 1862. Both were mustered out July 24, 1865, at Lexington, N. C., and discharged at Cleveland, O. Keller was for a while heavily afflicted with sore eyes from exposure and typhoid fever. He was in different hospitals: Murfreesborough, Nashville, New Albany, Indiana, and Camp Dennison, Ohio. When he was yet too weak for service, he insisted upon going to the front but had to be left in the hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. He was then appointed to duties in the "Soldier's Home." By his great perseverance he finally succeeded in again meeting his Regiment in the month of March, 1864, at Leverne, Tennessee.

Bower never left the Regiment from the beginning to the end, and was considered an expert in cavalry drill, especially in horsemanship. This is a wonderful record; to be a soldier for two years and nine months in the enemy's country, exposed by day and by night, yet never ~~hit~~ nor wounded.

Their engagements with the enemy were: Sherman's Resaca and Atlanta campaigns, Raid around the Rebel General Hood's Army, which continued for three days and two nights with the dash and severity of a storm, Sherman's March to the Sea, North and South Carolina campaigns, and the surrender of General Joseph E. Johnson at Greensborough, North Carolina.

Cousin Jeremiah is a member of Lafayette Post at Easton, Pa., G. A. R., No. 217, Dept. of Pennsylvania. He served as Chaplain for seven years—1895-1902.

insinuation of the said last Will and Testament, and the committing the administration of all and singular the Goods, Chattles, Rights and Credits, which were of the said deceased, and also the auditing the Accompts, Calculations, and Reckonings of the said administration, and a final dismission from the same to me are manifestly known to belong, and that administration of all and singular the Goods, Chattles, Rights, and Credits of the said deceased any way concerning his last Will and Testament was committed to Mary Engle widow of the said Deceased and Joseph Keller Son of the said Deceased. The said widow by a renunciation filed in the Registers office for the County of Northampton has renounced & assigned all her right of Executorship to her son Joseph the other Executor in the said Testament named, he having first been duly Sworn well and truly to administer the Goods, Chattles, Rights, and Credits of the said deceased, and make a true and perfect inventory thereof, and exhibit the same into the Register's Office at Easton, on or before the twenty first day of November next, and to render a true and just Accompt, Calculation, and Reckoning of the said administration, on or before the twenty first day of October (1801) or when thereunto lawfully required

IN TESTIMONY whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, at Easton aforesaid, the twenty first day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred

JOHN ROSS Rg

## CHAPTER XVIII

### WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JOSEPH KELLER

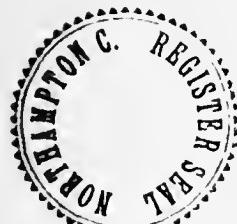
THIS Will is the one made by Joseph Keller (I, 1). Here we can see how careful he was, first, to provide for his wife; secondly, for the various members of his family. It is a quaint document, but its sincerity cannot be questioned for one moment. The editors present it in as near its original form as possible, hence no attention is paid to modern spelling, punctuation, etc.

Northampton County, ss.

By the Tenor of these presents, I,  
JOHN ROSS,

Register for the Probate of Wills, and granting Letters of Administration, in and for the County of Northampton, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

DO MAKE KNOWN unto all Men, that on the day of the date hereof at Easton, before me was proved, approved, and insinuated the last Will and Testament of Joseph Keller of Plainfield Township deceased, (a true copy whereof is to these presents annexed) having whilst he lived, and at the time of his death, divers Goods, Chattles, Rights, and Credits within the said Commonwealth, by reason whereof the approbation and





128 In the Name of God Amen I Joseph Keller of Plainfield Township in the County of Northampton and State of Pennsylvania Yeoman being in health and of Sound mind and Perfect Memory but weak in Body and Considering the uncertainty of this life do make this my Testament & Last Will

First It is my Will and I order that all my just Debts and funeral expences of every kind shall be fully paid and discharged out of my Estate.

Secondly I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife Mary Engle the sum of One Hundred Pounds of Lawful Money of Pennsylvania to be paid out of the Money I have on Interest.

Thirdly I give and bequeath unto Philip Keller my youngest Son, all my Messuages, Tenements, Plantations and tract of Land Situate in the Township aforesaid (and whereon I now live) Bounded by Land of Leonard Kern and Christian Bender and others containing about three Hundred Acres Together with all and Singular the Rights Liberties Privileges and appurtenances To have and to Hold the same to him the said Philip Keller his Heirs and Assigns forever. Under and Subject to the reservations, Stipulations Conditions and Payments following that is to say that he the said Philip Keller his Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns shall give and deliver to my said Wife Mary Engle Yearly and every Year during her natural life Three Bushels of good Wheat eight Bushels of good Rye Eight Bushels of good Buckwheat Three Bushels of Good Indian Corn ten Pounds of good Hatched Flax ten Pounds of tow and if there are Apples

130 ment and then beginning again with the Payment to my said Eldest Second & third Sons in the same order of Rotation until they respectively have received the Sum of one Hundred and Seventy five Pounds each. The Last Payment to each of them being only Twenty five Pounds.

Fourthly The Residue of my Money I give and bequeath to said Sons Simon Keller Jacob Keller Joseph Keller and Philip Keller their Heirs Executors and Administrators or Assigns to be Divided Equally among them within Six Months after my Decease but all the rest & Residue of my Personal Estate of Which I may Die Possessed of what kind or nature soever, I give and bequeath to my said Wife her Executors Administrators or Assigns absolutely

Fifthly & Lastly I do Nominate and appoint my said Wife Executrix and my said Son Joseph Keller Executor of this my Testament and last Will hereby revoking all former Testaments or Wills by me made In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this seventh Day of March one Thousand, Seven Hundred and Ninety Seven.

Signed Sealed Published and declared by the above named Testator Joseph Keller to his Testament and Last Will in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names at the request and in the presence of him the Testator.

growing in the Orchard on the said Premises as many as she may want for her own use. That he the said Philip Keller his Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns shall provide Cut and Deliver to her my said Wifes Door or the Premises aforesaid, during her natural life Sufficient Fire wood and if she should get weak or Sick find or procure and maintain a woman to nurse Cherish and wait on her keep her Cow which she may have in as good Condition and order as his or their own and on the said Premises, also during her natural life allow her also during her natural life the third part of the Ground of the now Garden and on the said Premises suffer her to Dwell in the house on the said Premises wherein I now reside and have the use of the Stove also in the same House during her natural life and Subject also to the Payment of five Hundred and twenty five Pounds of lawfull Money aforesaid in Yearly Payments to my three Sons Simon Keller Joseph Keller and Jacob Keller their Executors Administrators or Assigns in equal Proportions and order of Seniority following That is to say One Hundred Seventy five Pounds to each of them thirty Pounds part of the said £525 to my Eldest Son the said Simon Keller on the 27th Day of May next after my Decease thirty Pounds more thereof to my said second Son the said Joseph Keller on the 27 Day of May thence next following the said of next following the said of first Payment thirty Pounds more thereof to my third Son the said Jacob Keller on the 27th Day of May thence next after the Day of the said Second Pay-

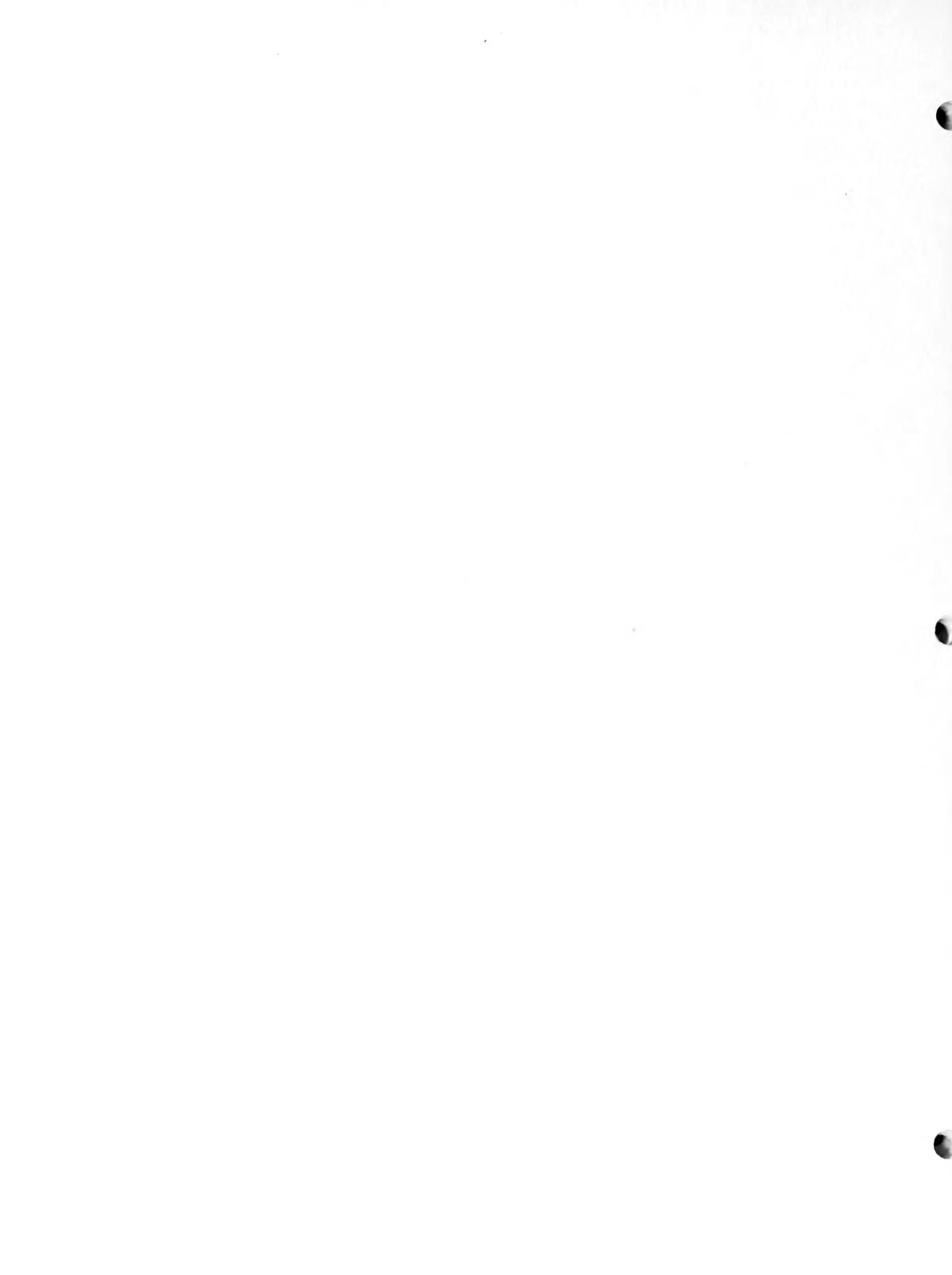
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, ss

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On the 21st Day of October A<sup>o</sup> D<sup>i</sup> 1800 Before me John Ross Register for the Probate of Wills &c in and for the County of Northampton came Jacob Heller John Young and Christian Bender the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing Last Will and Testament of Joseph Keller Deceased who being duly Sworn according to Law did depose and say that they were present at the Execution of said Will and did see and hear the said Testator Sign Seal Publish and declare the same as and for his Last Will & Testament and that at the Doing thereof he the said Testator was of Sound mind memory and understanding to the best of their Knowledge and belief and also that they these Deponents Subscribed their names as witnesses to the said Last Will and Testament in the presence and at the request of the said Testator and in the presence of each other Witness my Hand

JOHN ROSS Register

JOSEPH <sup>his</sup> KELLER { mark } SEAL }



## CHAPTER XIX

### REMINISCENCES

#### WHAT BECAME OF THE DEER?

Above the Keller mill, at Delabole, Pennsylvania, Gottlieb Snyder and his family lived a long time ago. Afterward the farm was owned and occupied by Michael Delp and his family. The Snyders were hunters and were well acquainted with the deer and their habits. Now, Rev. Thomas Pomp, pastor of the Plainfield Congregation and living at Easton, was also fond of the chase, and in the time of deer-hunting (in the Fall of the year) often spent a week or more in the Snyder family. They were no members of his nor any other church—all they had with which to please and entertain the pastor were dogs, guns and the like. I remember of Father Pomp relating the sport they had like this: "Was hawe mir die Hersch doch springe mache—was sie aus 'm Leib hawe springe könnel!" (How we did make the deer run—with all the power they had!)

This same family had a tame deer, and early one morning father, Philip Keller (II, 11), opened his shutters to look out, behold! that deer, whose home was about a mile away, was in his garden lustily making away with his vegetables. His gun was loaded and near at hand, and he said to himself and mother Keller: "I will scare the seller and save the garden." With that he fired, the

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to the berries which were the size of an ordinary cherry. There were no seeds, and the pulp was very sweet and luscious. It was a common saying, that the eating of them, however many, would do no harm. In a very short time, buckets and kettles were filled to the top. Some, at times, took the bark of young chestnut trees, about four inches in diameter, and about five feet long, and made rustic buckets, which answered a good purpose.—ELI KELLER.

#### 'S MÜHL-STÜBCHE (THE LITTLE MILL ROOM)

In our mill was a room, known as "Mühl-Stübcche." It might have been called the office. There was an old ten-plate wood-stove in it, a bench and a couch, also a large work-bench stored with all manner of tools. At times, the mill was run all night, as well as during the day. In rainy days, the "Stübcche" was, as a rule, well filled. To pass away the time, some games were occasionally played, especially "Fig-mill," with red and white grains of corn. Card-playing had a bad reputation, and was on that account prohibited.—ELI KELLER.

#### "LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION"

Father had for years a German miller, John Emmerling, who had a number of children: George, Joseph, Anton, Rachael, &c. One day we children made up a party to go up the hill to get early pears at John Gottschal's. Mr. G. had children: Aaron, Herman, Isaac, Katie and Polly. Early pears were

deer jumped high over the fence and out of the garden, but that was its last jump. The garden was far from the house, up in the orchard. In my early childhood I often saw it, with a large hydrangea beside the gate. Mr. Snyder was a man inclined to make trouble. His deer disappeared, but how and where no one ever discovered—so the Snyders and the Kellers remained good neighbors.—ELI KELLER.

#### GATHERING HUCKLEBERRIES ON THE BLUE MOUNTAIN

Fetching huckleberries from the Blue Mountain was one of our chief pleasures. The variety was the "Early Little Blue." A fire on the mountain would kill and consume the tops; next year, sprouting from the roots, new branches seven or eight inches long would grow up, and the year after, be in bearing condition. The time to find them was immediately after the cutting of grain in harvest. Early in the morning, large parties of men, women and children would start towards "Shover's Gap." At an early hour already the heat was frequently intense, but a little later, some refreshing breezes would arise. Toward the top of said gap, is a beautiful and excellent spring of water, nestled in a mossy bed of fern, &c. There a good drink was taken, and some more water taken along in the vessels. If the berries were a good crop, the little stalks were lying over, and the berries could be taken literally by the handfuls. The adjective little applied only to the stalk, not

a great thing to our taste, the more so, since we had none of our own. When we got there, Mr. G. was at home, and instead of receiving us with a smile, frowned and drove us away. We retreated to the public road, and there awaited further developments. I alone was called back and the frowns were all turned into smiles. Mr. G. filled my pockets and my handkerchiefs with pears, but said: "Those children before this came around here to steal, and if I can avoid it, they will not get a bite of my pears." I was thus taught that "Honesty is the best policy."—ELI KELLER.

#### "REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY"

Around our first home, and along the beautiful creek, were plenty of bushes, among which we loved to roam. The birds and the fish were our favorite companions, especially the latter. Below our house, the creek made a turn to the right, forming, under the broad limbs of several large spruce trees, a deep dam of water. In the afternoon, the lowering sun often shone brightly into the water, and the fine large suckers, with sparkling eyes, lay before us as in a mirror. One Sunday afternoon, we children stood facing the fish, and forgot the Fourth Commandment. We snared about a dozen fine suckers, and placed them in a small dam behind us. To bring them home on Sunday would never do, but on Monday, we expected to smuggle them in, and be praised for good luck. For safe keeping we placed sticks over the



little prisoners, then all manner of rubbish for hiding the booty. On Monday we returned, but alas! the fish were all gone. Some cunning fox, or other abominable creature, had stolen them. Thus we learned, that:

"A Sabbath profaned, whatever may be gained,  
Is a certain forerunner of sorrow."

—ELI KELLER.

### WILD PIGEONS

It was in the Fall of the year, when brother Philip and I were plowing sod for corn the coming season, as our custom was. The air was already cool, and our "round-about" were closely buttoned up. The field was on high ground, whence we could look far and wide, along the range of the Blue Mountain. The Wind Gap was opposite us and in the clear sky seemed very near though fully three miles away. The Delaware Water Gap was on the north-east, and the Lehigh Water Gap on the south-west many miles away. The sky was remarkably clear and of a bright blue. Anon, we noticed in the distance what at first we took to be dark clouds, some smaller, some larger, some round fleece-like bodies, others in long banks like floating islands. At first, we supposed that those were omens of violent storms about to burst somewhere, though with us the air was calm. Soon such clouds, rolling out of the Wind Gap apparently, came in a line of at least a mile in length and straight toward us like an attacking army. Our teams were moving steadily along, but our eyes were on what

"Beautiful Kate." The other had in its chorus: "Fire in the mountains, run, boys, run!"—ELI KELLER.

### A TRIP TO THE SUNNY SOUTH

In 1869, July the 5th, brother Joseph, sister Susan, and a school teacher, Sarah Rexroth, and I left Ohio to visit Tennessee, especially the battlefield of Stone River, at Murfreesborough, where our beloved brothers were sacrificed with many others on the altar of our American Union. We met at Forest, and via Dayton, Ohio, and Louisville, Kentucky, came to Clarksville, Tennessee, on the Cumberland River. There we took a steamboat, The Luella, for Dover, and visited the battlefield of Fort Donaldson. On Friday night we returned to Clarksville and continued to Nashville, reaching there about 2 A. M., on Saturday. Soon after starting up the river in the evening, the sky darkened and distant thunder was heard. The darkness became so great that we could not proceed. The boat was lashed to some trees on the banks of the river and fire kindled on deck, fore and aft, to prevent collision. The shower was quite heavy and the scene weird and wonderful. The clouds and the rain having passed by, the silvery moon appeared full orb'd in the heavens. The air was very serene and the deck-hands—all negroes—at many points had to move goods on or off in large quantities. All the while they were at work they were singing their songs, and did so in a style all their own. Such a scene, and in the midst of such

we now recognized as an innumerable host of wild pigeons. Being on high ground, the birds were nearer to us. Their wings made a strange noise, akin to the myriads of flying locusts in the east. Our horses became alarmed, as we noticed by the cocking of their ears. We called a "Whoa!"—and running to their heads, held and quieted them. For about five minutes the rustling and rushing sound continued. Such a scene I never witnessed before, nor since—and never shall. Our opinion was, that those pigeons had bred and gathered in the marshes and mountains of Monroe Co., then, by some means, were disturbed and put to flight eastward.—ELI KELLER.

### THE MILLER AND LITTLE ELI

Mother, Mary Keller, wife of John H. Keller, inherited about eight hundred dollars from her father, Casper Engler. With that money a house was bought of Frederick Pebbles, located about a mile above the mill, toward the Blue Mountain. That house at one time was occupied by John McFall, who was at the same time the miller. He took his dinners at our house. When the meals were nearly ready, it was my pleasant duty to go to the mill with the summons. He would pick me up and carry me high on his whitened shoulders to our house. On the way was a steep little hill, covered at that time with laurel and other evergreens. He also sang songs for me, which I often since then wished to hear. One was about "Young Johny, the miller, who courted of late"—his girl was—

nerve killing sounds, would have been enough to drive sleep far enough away, but our attention was differently enlisted. A fine middle-aged man, well dressed, approached us in friendly conversation. I think he called himself Dr. Clark, and he introduced us to another man, Rev. Karstarphon, of the M. E. Church, and wife. Both knew us to be from the North. The ministerial couple showed their aversion, by soon turning us their backs. But not so Dr. C. Turning to me as the older, whilst we paced the deck, he said; "You whipped us and you whipped us completely, and we are much obliged!" I said: "Doctor, I cannot comprehend. I take you to be an honest man, yet am unable to believe what you say." He continued: "I speak the true sentiments of my heart. We based ourselves on *States' Rights*, and as to that, we are now cured. Could I now change the results of the war, I would not do so. I have traveled extensively. In France, I met a master of Political Economy speaking of our government. He said: 'You have a beautiful form of government, and it is strong too, against outside pressure, but equally weak as to inside pressure. Yes, I must tell you, that the elements are now at work that will burst the fabric of your government into a thousand fragments.'" He continued: "I may possibly see that man again, and desire again to ask his opinion of our government; I can assure him that we did our utmost to break the government, and failed utterly. I repeat then, we are much obliged for what you did." We spent a Sunday, July 11, in Murfreesborough. On



140) Monday, a negro teamster showed us the battle-field. We were in the one-story log cabin, where both brothers died, and saw, too, where they had been buried. The cabin was occupied by a negro, a Baptist minister, and his family. He told us how he still spent his nights in fear in the marshes, how his letters, to and from Michigan addressed to his son-in-law, were intercepted, &c. We visited the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky on the way back, and spent four hours in the bowels of the Earth. The whole trip was to us a sad, and yet a satisfactory one.—ELI KELLER.

#### HOW THE BOYS SLID DOWN FROM "JAKE'S KOP"

The fields forming the sides of the hill, called "Jake's Kop" in this history, were very popular for coasting. In those days a no uncommon part of the Winter's outfit was a large sleigh, in size about midway between a common cutter and a two-horse sled. It made a long ride to go from an upper corner of one of those fields diagonally to a lower corner.

One Winter's day, quite a party of young men decided to take a ride. The right-hand field in front of the old home was selected, and to make the merry ride as long as possible it was to begin at the upper left-hand corner of the large field and end in the lower right-hand corner. This would make a ride of nearly a quarter of a mile. The happy, hopeful, eager little party pulled the big sleigh up to the place of starting, and crowded it full to the

plowed. That explains why the sled at a certain point refused to go any further.—REUBEN KELLER.

#### A GIRL CHARMED

In a meadow near the old home, there were quite a number of large apple trees. When those trees were yet comparatively small, in the time of haying the hired girl was working in the meadow. At noonime the girl was called to dinner. She, however, did not come promptly. On investigation she was seen standing stock-still under one of those trees. One of the men hurried to the spot and found a large black-snake in the tree staring at the girl just as steadily as the girl looked up at the snake. The man quickly called for a gun and the snake was killed and the girl walked to the house. Tradition says that the snake charmed the girl; yet, according to Jer. 8:17, the girl might have charmed the snake.—REUBEN KELLER.

#### A REBUKE AND ITS GOOD FRUIT

About the beginning of the year 1901, Rev. Reuben Keller (V, 76), on board a train on the Wabash railroad, in north-western Ohio, made the acquaintance of an old gentleman by the name of Kaltenbach. On hearing the name Keller, the old man inquired more particularly, and being informed that the Crawford County Kellers were referred to, he related the following incident: When a young man, he worked as an apprentice in John Keil's blacksmith shop at Bucyrus. One day Rev. Eli Keller (IV, 6) brought his little horse to the shop

last available space. At the word, they started, and away they went like the wind! And now come to mind some of Southey's description of the water coming down the Cataract of Lodore, which we read in our school readers of those days:

"With its rush and its roar,  
And away it proceeds,  
Helter-skelter,  
Hurry-skurry.  
Till, in this rapid race  
On which it is bent,  
It reaches the place  
Of its steep descent."

On they went at more desperate speed, and every moment gaining more fearful momentum, when, quick as a flash, the sled put its nose into the ground, threw its heels into the air and away went the promiscuous crowd to finish the race without the sled! And now comes Southey again to help us in the description:

"And thundering and floundering;  
Dividing and gliding and sliding,  
And falling and brawling and sprawling."

They rolled like logs, they went end-over-end, they bunched up like big snowballs, and with all sorts of motions, and in a few moments they dotted the hillside all battered, banged and bruised.

Thus they came down the "steep descent" in the big field, where the Old Chestnut Tree still chuckles as a lone witness of the daring escapade.

The young men had forgotten that late in the Fall quite a strip at the foot of the hill had been

to get him shod. Mr. Keil set the young Kaltenbach to work on the little horse. The horse was rather fractious, and the young man being quite worldly, gave expression to some very profane words. Rev. Keller listened a little while, then said; "Ist das was sie beten können?" (Is that what you can pray? or, is that the way you pray?) The old man said, that, wicked as he then was, he could never shake off the effect of that gentle rebuke until he began to lead a Christian life. At the time of the conversation, he was an Elder in a large Lutheran congregation in Edon, Williams Co., Ohio.

#### HOW THE CORN WAS HOED

It was on a Spring day, over one-third of a century ago. The father of a family, consisting largely of boys, was a Township Trustee, and on the day mentioned had to be from home to attend to some township business. The corn in the new-ground was ready for cultivation. The father gave his orders, namely, for the oldest boy to do the plowing and the others the hoeing, and all to do good work.

All went on quite well, excepting that the younger boys occupied the fences and stumps a little too much to suit the older brother, who considered himself clothed with paternal authority for the day, and frequently indulged in dignified commands to those beneath him.

The dinner bell rang—blessed music to all! The horse understood and whinnied; the elder



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brother unhitched and rode on home; and the other boys, in a jiffy, hoed (?) each his own row to the end. A practical thought struck these youngsters. Not believing in doing their "first-works" over on the same day, and to make sure that no such mistake would be made, stuck a stake so that they would know just where to begin after dinner.

Coming to the fertile West brought a quick crop of brilliant ideas in the minds of "the rising generation."—RUBEN KELLER.

This refers to the Joseph Keller (IV, 17) boys.  
—[ED.]

#### A TOBOGGAN SLIDE

A small distance up stream from the Old Keller Mill was the dam, from which the mill received its supply of water. Right by that dam was the schoolhouse, where a number of the Keller connection of the fifth generation went to school. Right across the road from the schoolhouse were two fields with quite steep hills. Those hills were much used for coasting, and many a merry noon hour was spent there. Sometimes the "Master" would forbid the smaller ones to go to the hills. Now, this fifth generation were not all perfect, it had a few naughty and knotty limbs. One Winter day those hillsides were a perfect glare of ice, and at first only the larger pupils ventured to climb them. But, by and by, one of the least of the children, one of those knotty Kellers mentioned, began to pick his way up the icy slope. When he was nearly at the top and ready to crow over the tri-

tree lay prostrate, torn up by the roots. The next day Joseph Keller (IV, 17) began to cut up the tree. The process went on without any special incident until he was cutting off the last branch. At first, he stood on the branch and trunk, but to work to better advantage, he stepped off and stood on the ground, and just as the last stroke of the axe fell that severed the limb from the trunk, more quickly than it can be told, the body of the tree rose upright. In the fall some of the roots were not broken, and being on a tremendous tension, pulled the tree back into an erect position. New branches put forth and the tree stood for years afterward.

Joseph always was of the opinion that, if he had remained standing on the tree till the last branch (so much heavier than he) was off, he would have been severely injured, or hurled to a violent death.—RUBEN KELLER.

#### JOSEPH KELLER'S HOUSE ATTACKED

Joseph Keller, Sr., (I, 1) had just heard a rumor that the Indians were going to make a raid upon the neighborhood. For security, he at once took his family to the Jacob Ruth Fort, a place of common defense in case of danger, situated about one mile south-east of the old Plainfield Church. Joseph then returned to his house, located a short distance west of the present village of Delabole, to take care of the stock he was compelled to leave behind. Nearing the house, he saw the Indians in the loft of the old house appropriating his highly-prized and hard-earned crop of tobacco. The sight

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umph achieved; his little feet let loose and the motion was reversed. He began to go faster and faster, and his fright became greater as the speed increased. Now, near the foot of the hill was a post-and-rail fence, and a few rods below that the mill-race. The little fellow was lying down with his face toward the ground and slipping along at a great rate. By a natural law still in force, the heavy end got into the lead and so head-foremost he went on toward the foot of the hill. Ten thousand thoughts, more or less, passed through his mind. He hoped that the bottom rail of that fence would be high enough to let him pass through under in safety, and that the ice on the race would be thick enough to bear the shock when he would plunge down over the bank. But he could not see any space under that bottom rail, hope had all gone out, and in another moment he expected to strike the fence. But just when he looked for the tragic end, he shot head-long into a deep snowbank right by that fence. The little fellow dug his way out of the drift, brushed off the snow from his home-spun clothes, and walked to the schoolhouse looking just as innocent as possible. Guess who it was.—RUBEN KELLER.

This refers to Reuben Keller (V, 76).—[ED.]

#### A RESURRECTION

The large walnut tree represented in the picture of the old Pennsylvania home, standing in front of the house and between it and the spring-run, was blown down one very stormy night. The

of this angered him so much that he said if he had had enough men, he would have gone to the house, locked the doors, fired the house and burned house, Indians, tobacco and all.

#### A TESTIMONIAL FROM A DISTIN- GUISHED SOURCE

In the English Reformed Church Year Book and Almanac, for the year 1880, there appeared a historic sketch under the title, "Joseph Keller" (I, 1), written originally in German by Rev. Eli Keller, D. D., (IV, 6) for the German Church Year Book. The sketch was translated into English by the Rev. Jeremiah H. Good, D. D., for many years the efficient Professor of Mathematics in Heidelberg College, and for the remainder of his life, Professor of Dogmatic Theology in Heidelberg Theological Seminary.

Dr. Keller says in the sketch: "Hence it seems to me to be quite appropriate to write down here the history of one of my ancestors, &c." Then Dr. Good says in parenthesis: "Much more of this kind should be done before it is too late. These historical parts will become of the deepest interest to our posterity. It is long since I have read a more deeply interesting narrative than this of the father of the Keller family."

Again, the sketch says: "Joseph Keller, with an older brother and with a half-brother named Good (Guth), also concluded to go to America." Then Dr. Good, again in parenthesis, says: "It is quite probable that the father of this Good was



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also the ancestor or a relative of the ministers of this name in the Reformed Church. There are four of them now. Their ancestor, Jacob Good, was born in 1747, and, in 1766, emigrated from Zweibrücken to America."

After Dr. Good had made the translation, he wrote a very complimentary letter (under date of Aug. 5, 1879), in which he speaks thus: "I think the sketch a charming one, artistically put together and produced in excellent style. It is well worth a wider circulation even than it will attain in the English Almanac. Of course, I studied it carefully while translating it, and must say honestly, that it displays a *real genius* in that kind of literature, especially in that nameless thing we call style. Take the sentence, commencing 'Da ward ihnen der blaue Berg, &c.,' as an example. How few would have thought of that, or having thought of it, been able to express it with so much simplicity and picturesqueness. (The whole sentence referred to, is translated thus: The Blue Mountains, with their rocks, springs, and woods became in their eyes a second Hardt; the mountain stream was for them their native Saar; the Martins Creek was the Moselle, and the Delaware the Rhine.)

"I would suggest, that whenever you feel like it, you write similar sketches, either from *real life* or from *history*, for future Almanacs, and for the Church papers. And I would suggest, still farther that this sketch of Joseph Keller (and similar ones) be published as S. S. Books, in English and German. I would want no better S. S. Books than one

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the other, and the man no doubt often wishing his down-hill leg five or six inches longer than the other; (b) of the jolly band of harvesters—old men, young mothers and buxom girls—earlier "with sickles keen" and later with cradle and rake; and of the faithful wife bringing out the "nine o'clock piece" and spreading it out under the Old Chestnut Tree; how this little feast and a little draw from the "Schnapps" bottle made them forget the inconvenience of the sweat and weariness of the flesh; (c) of when the time came to haul in the grain, how the big four- or six-horse team had to circle round to get to the top, and then how the wheels were chained to the ladders with the large chains knotted at the bottom of the wheel so that deep furrows were torn into the ground as they drove straight down the hill, and how the horses, at times had to sit down dog-fashion, bracing themselves, to keep the wagon from running over them.

(4)—How complainingly could these fields speak of the cruel dashes of rain that tore great gullies into their sides, almost deep enough to bury a plowman and his team.

(5)—It could tell of whole under-ground villages of ground hogs, those hardy, shy and mischievous creatures, and how, while grandfather and one of the boys were grinding some tool under the walnut tree, the little dog Tippy kept up a constant and excited barking over in the hill-field; and how, the grinding being done, they called, "Here Bull, here Bull," and the old bull-dog responding promptly, they went over to the hillside and found a large

or two hundred like this of Joseph Keller. The boys and girls, if once they got hold of it, would read it over and over again, like we used to read Robinson Crusoe, and the Swiss Family Robinson, and certainly its religious and moral influence would be of the best kind." No doubt the historic narrative by Dr. Keller and the very complimentary references and kindly request of the now Sainted Dr. Good, have had much influence in bringing our history to the fuller and more permanent form of this book.—REUBEN KELLER.

#### ON, AT, AND OVER "JAKE'S KOP"

If that hill, "Jake's Kop," would have a tongue to speak, in what varied tones and feelings it could tell of real historic facts—interesting, romantic, thrilling, tragic, ludicrous and solemn, comical and pathetic!

(1)—It could tell all about Father Joseph's (I, 1) faithful team, his rude plow, and just where he was working when the merciless Indians stole their way along on the other side.

(2)—It could draw an interesting word-picture for the boys and girls of to-day of the Schiwova Fens (Swabian fence), so constructed that each rail with the lower end on the ground served as a prop to keep the whole fence from slipping down hill.

(3)—How feelingly it would no doubt speak (a) of the inconvenience in farming those steep sides; plowing along the hillside turning every furrow toward its foot, with one horse several feet above

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ground hog backed up against an apple tree keeping Tippy at bay, and then how Bull took the hog by the nape of the neck and shook the life out of it, and how the boy carried the animal home triumphantly and had it dressed and roasted.

(6)—And then, again, when the summer breezes gently beat the large hillsides of rye into waves that traveled one after another toward the top, the voice could tell us how Jacob (III, 34) was a lover of children, as he, in a teasing but good-natured way, told the children that those waves were produced by the ground hogs running through the grain.

(7)—Again, that brushy, bushy piece of timber at the top (so much resembling the big, round, bushy head of Father Jacob) could tell a pleasing story of how, toward the close of day, the birds came from all directions to seek rest for the night; and how the boys bent down a limb or sprout to set a snare for a rabbit and that usually the boy was doomed to disappointment, when the rabbit was not caught, but sitting somewhere in the bushes "making big eyes" at him; and how the boys at other times would worry their way up there to cut straight, smooth chestnut sprouts for whistles and to gather a few huckleberries or fresh shoots of wintergreen.

(8)—With what eloquence and delightful memories that field, where the Old Chestnut Tree stands, could tell of its once thriving orchard, how the original Kellers planted seed or set the young trees and then watched and waited for the fruit; and



152) of the oceans of apples that grew and fell and covered the whole slope of the orchard. Apples! apples!—Bellflowers, Pippins, Spitzenburgs, Vandeveres, Secknafathers, Grindstones, galore! And of the men taking the wagon to the orchard, unhitching the team and going to other fields to plow while the women loaded the wagon with apples to be crushed and squeezed in that rude old press which the boys at one time undertook to paint, using brickdust for the coloring and spring water for oil, and how the whole scene ended suddenly and dramatically, when the boy who went to dip oil slipped upon the frosty plank and fell headlong into the spring.

(9)—The Old Chestnut Tree could testify how Jacob (III, 34) and Elizabeth (III, 35), after windy Autumn nights, came up early in the morning to gather the nuts that had been shattered from its branches, before some sneak-thief would steal them or industrious little ground squirrel store them up for itself.

(10)—We could also hear the voice speak with mingled joy and sadness of the Keller boys and their associates sneaking out on a Sabbath day, keeping the barn between them and the house, and in great glee beginning to coast on the steep hill-side. The visitors being out of the sight of their parents, and the Keller parents not being able to look through the barn, all considered themselves safe, and all went well for awhile. But when one of the smallest fell from his sled, and one of the oldest coming right behind ran into the little fel-

154) the foxes from their hiding places and frightened them out of the woods, down the hill on the other side, and on toward the Blue Mountain barking and yelping as they went. But let Jacob Bruch, who related the story, tell it in his own way: "Do sin die Füx ap g' sprunge, aus 'm Bush raus, 'm Hivel nunner un 'm Bloe Berg zu! Des war aver en g' bloß un en g' boller das es alle Match g'botte hot." (Thereupon the foxes ran out of the copse, down the hill toward the Blue Mountain. The barking and noise was beyond comparison.)—RUBEN KELLER.

#### A LONG JOURNEY AFOOT

This journey was made by Philip Keller (IV, 1) and Joseph Keller (IV, 17). Quite a full history was prepared by Philip, of which we can here give only a very condensed account. A large number of relatives and friends—Shooks, Millers, Shellys and Kellers, all former playmates of the Kellers, had removed farther north in the state, especially to Wyoming Co., Pa. "It was very painful to have them leave us." Among them were the grandparents, uncles and aunts of Joseph.

"Our hunger to see them increased, and father (III, 32) and uncle Jacob (III, 34) made us the promise, that if we would push our work, we might visit them after sowing was done. We pushed the work, and though time appeared to go slow, the day set for our departure finally came. We were as green as could be."

This was between 1838 and 1840, hence Philip

low, laying his cheek wide open, the Sunday sport suddenly ended. The visitors stole quietly down the meadow and the Kellers, again keeping the barn between them and the house, found their way home. But we never heard what reason they gave why their sleds were left back of the barn, or how they explained the gash in the little brother's cheek.

(11)—Then this hill of romantic witness-bearing could testify of a young fellow, a successor of one of the Major Prophets, Jerry (V, 72) for short, who could mount a stone or stump or stake-and-rider fence and preach a sermon, imitating David Henning (pro. Dawsid Hayning) or the pastor at the Plainsfield Church. It could again testify that this young fellow was capable of doing some other things, and in the exercise of another set of talents caught a rooster and carried it up the hill to the Old Chestnut Tree, set it on a limb, then shook it off to see it fly home; then comes a deep, doleful voice telling how the father fixed up accounts with the boy. No wonder that after testifying to all these events, the Old Chestnut Tree has worn a blighted top for fifty years or more! Enough to make a human head bald!

(12)—And what a charming and fascinating tale this "Kop" could tell of the marriage of Joseph (IV, 17) and Lovina (IV, 18), and the arrangements for a first-class belling! How the crowd of youngsters, bent upon getting all the fun out of it possible, marched up the hill with all sorts of instruments, entered the brushy piece of timber at the top, and by their hideous noise started

was about 20 or 21 years old and Joseph 18 or 19 years old.

Early in the morning, each having a little bundle of clothing and lunch, they started out to Wind Gap, Saylersburg, Broadhead, &c. Up the Pocono Mountain for three miles the way was thronged with lumber teams. The boys spent the night at a tavern on top of the mountain; in the evening they were entertained by loungers, with hunters' stories, of conflicts with bears, panthers, &c., and what a hero and public benefactor the one was who had killed a panther. Next day, while going along wild and rough ways, the stories of the past night made the boys constantly think that some ravenous beast might leap out of its hiding place. When they were yet on the mountain, the beautiful Wyoming Valley burst into view with bewitching effect. Then a bird's-eye view of Wilkes Barre and the broad Susquehanna lay before them in their beauty. They went on to Kingston, to an old fort, and across the river on a ferry. At Pittston they pulled off their shoes and waded through the Lackawanna, literally thronging with fish; thence to Buttermilk Falls—"Three falls like high stairs and the water looks like milk from a distance."

At the home of Henry Shook. "Who can imagine our feelings when we stepped into the midst of our dear old playmates! The surprise was as great to them as to us. Who can imagine all the questions about friends, the old home, &c.!"

Joseph wore thin boots and his feet became



very sore; Philip wore thick-soled shoes and so fared better. He took a side trip of seven miles while Joseph rested. Then on they went to Tunkhannock together. The country was wild, settlers Yankees, no churches, but attended services in a schoolhouse.

A moon-light clover seed cutting was arranged for the amusement of the young visitors. For the first time these young Kellers saw the long scythe with crooked snath used. They however concluded that the short, broad Dutch scythe did cleaner work. Quite a field was mowed in two hours.

Also an evening party was gotten up in honor of the guests. "Singing, marching and counter-marching beat anything we ever saw." Then they stopped at the home of John Shelly, high on the river bluff. Soon they went on to Columbia Co. via Wilkes Barre; walked on the towpath to Nanticoke; visited a coal mine; reached the home of Alexander Miller, but on account of serious sickness there, did not remain. It was night, but after some trouble, they found a tavern. On account of drunken miners and rough conduct they left next morning without breakfast. "Crossed the river in a bateau perhaps 30 feet long and not much wider than a big feed trough. He, the boatman, saw we were green and laughed heartily at our fear." Finally they reached a tavern and ordered breakfast. The lusty woman said: "You look as though you needed something to eat." They went on down the river, and bought some crackers that proved stale, hard as walnuts, and infested with ants.

## CHAPTER XX

### REUNION AND ASSOCIATION HISTORY

Even before any reunions were held or a formal organization effected, the matter of family gatherings had received some attention by several branches of the Keller connection. Also, the hope was expressed that at some time there might be a representative gathering at the old historic place in Pennsylvania, where the original American head of our family settled. But for a long time none of these fond hopes or anticipations were realized. The sentiment, expressed later by the author of this book, had been lying quiet in many a Keller soul; and when read to the gathering of a large portion of the Western families, it met with an enthusiastic response. Dr. Eli Keller (IV, 6) said: "I am an advocate of family reunions. There should be in every family a family pride, or call it a family consciousness. It is very much the same as home-feeling, not centering in locality only or mainly, but in 'Kith and Kin.'

"Family reunions, if rightly observed, must strengthen and sanctify family ties. Our social nature requires more than merely to know that this man or this woman is a relative; more than to attend the funeral of a relative and mingle our tears with those of sorrowing friends. It means also to rejoice with them that do rejoice; it means to look into unclouded eyes and to come into touch with

Then they visited a Jacob Keller, and went with the children to church, and heard a "Rev. Bergstresser deliver an exciting sermon."

Next they found the home of Samuel Keller. "Delightful company!" Then they went to Mauch Chunk. According to the mile stones, they walked at the rate of a mile every fifteen minutes. At an eating house at Hazleton a drunken man threatened to abuse Joseph, but he was protected by others. A coal train was ready to start to Mauch Chunk and the friendly engineer invited them to get on the engine. The fare was to be 25 cents' worth of treats. After the train had gone some distance, it was halted at a tavern. The Kellers paid the 25 cents, but remained on the engine. There was terrible profanity among the miners. The train started but was hindered by cattle on the track; then a butcher drove along on the track for some distance but the train did not overtake him. Philip says: "I do not remember of hearing a man swear until we reached Carbon County." They did not like the looks of Mauch Chunk, so they went on down the river, the Lehigh, to Lehighton, for the night. Next morning they went on down the river to the Blue Mountain, through the Wind Gap over into their own old Northampton County; then through Nazareth, Fletchertown, &c., to their Plainfield homes.

Facts were furnished by Philip Keller. In the light of the modern modes of travel, the preceding sketch is very instructive to all of us.—[ED.]

those whom God has made to be in a special sense 'of one flesh.'

"If such family reunions are good in a general way, they must be good for our Keller family, and should find a hearty support."

Of this family life and of this spirit of family unity, the Association and Reunions were born.

#### I

The first reunion was held June 8, 1893, at the home of Philip Keller (IV, 1), in Sandusky Township, Crawford County, Ohio.

Rev. Eli Keller, D. D., (IV, 6), of Zionsville, Pa., the prime mover in the matter, was present and called the meeting to order. A scripture lesson was read, prayer was offered by Rev. Joseph A. Keller, D. D., (IV, 11), of Hartville, Ohio, and then the Doxology was sung.

Dr. Eli Keller was elected President; John H. Keller (V, 6), Secretary, and Christian A. Keller (V, 29), Treasurer.

An address was made by the President, and Philip Keller made remarks along the same line.

Joseph A. spoke of the history and future aims of the family. Rev. J. B. Shumaker, D. D., (IV, 14) in very appropriate words, paid a special tribute to grandmother, Mary Engler Keller (III, 33). Several made tender and loving reference to the Civil War and the deaths of Captain Amos (IV, 5) and Lieutenant Aaron (IV, 10) Keller.

The matter of the next reunion was referred to the following Committee of Arrangements: Rev. Eli, John II., and Christian A. Keller.



Dinner and supper were served to all. Fifty-two persons were present.

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## II

As stated in the introductory words to this chapter, the question of reunions was thought of a great deal, but no one had a plan formulated by which to bring about the reunions so much longed for. Therefore, there seemed to spring from the thinking of some one the idea of having reunions by families. This led to the first reunion at the home of Philip Keller (IV, 1) in Sandusky Township, Crawford County, Ohio; and to the second at the home of Joseph Keller (IV, 17) in Sandusky Township, Crawford County, Ohio, about one week later than the first reunion. This reunion was informal. The forenoon was spent in a free, social way. The splendidly loaded table was placed in the large east room and repeatedly filled with Kellers. The afternoon was spent in the large west room. Here the proceedings were so informal that nearly everyone contributed in some way to the joy and happiness of those who have Jacob Keller (III, 34) and Elizabeth Shook Keller (III, 35) for their grandparents.

There were about forty present.

## III

The third reunion was held in the hall of Bidle G. A. R. Post, Sulphur Springs, Ohio, June 1, 1899.

The President being absent, Philip Keller (IV, 1) called the meeting to order. Rev. Joseph

## IV

The fourth reunion was held at the beautiful and inviting home of Joel F. Keller, one mile south of Sulphur Springs, Aug. 21, 1902.

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In 1899, the day was so rainy that shelter had to be sought in a hall. This day was clear, comfortable and all that the most interested or fastidious could desire. The recreations, fellowship and social enjoyments were in beautiful harmony with the delightful day. The members of the family and others present ranged from the aged fathers and mothers of four-score years to the cooing babe in its mother's arms. After hand-shakings, introductions and cordial greetings, a rich and rare feast was enjoyed at tables under the spreading trees in the house yard.

After this a feast of a higher order was also participated in and relished by all in the observance of the following program:

Song—"As the Years Roll On"—By a family chorus.

Prayer—By Rev. J. B. Shumaker, D. D., of Tiffin, Ohio.

Chorus Song—"Memory Bells."

Reading of Minutes.

Recitation—By Lois Keller.

Chorus Song—"We Shall Never Pass Again This Way."

A letter, bearing affectionate greeting from Dr. Eli Keller, read by the President.

Song—"The First Robin"—By Ruth Keller and Florence Rader.

A. Keller, D. D., (IV, 11) was then elected President, and Rev. Reuben Keller, (V, 76) Secretary. After this all participated in a banquet.

At 1:30 o'clock the Association was again called to order by the President, who made very appropriate introductory remarks. A hymn was sung, and prayer was offered by Rev. E. D. Wettach, D. D., (V, 32). After another song, a motion prevailed to make the organization permanent, with head-quarters at Sulphur Springs, and that a reunion be held once every three years. C. A. Keller (V, 29) was elected Treasurer, and Dr. Eli (IV, 6) and Amos Keller (V, 13), Historians.

Ellen Keller (V, 9), Clara Norton (V, 37), and Geo. P. Rader (V, 34) were appointed a committee to arrange for the reunion in 1902.

Sympathy was expressed in regard to holding a reunion in Pennsylvania at some time, but definite action was deferred. Another song was sung.

The President read a letter from Dr. Eli Keller, which was full of sympathy, reminiscence and suggestion. This letter was ordered published in the county papers and will be found in full printed form in the records of the Association.

A telegram of fraternal greetings was ordered, and immediately sent to Dr. Eli Keller.

The subject of a family history was considered and on motion the Historians were requested to consider further the advisability of publishing such a book.

Sixty-seven persons were present.

163 Remarks on the Family Tree—By the Sec'y.  
Piano Solo—By Anna Gertrude Wettach.

Vocal Solo—"Mizpah," and encore, "The Four-leaf Clover"—By Anna M. Shumaker.

The matter of publishing a family history in book form received thorough consideration, favoring such project, Dr. Wettach (V, 32), Prof. A. D. Keller (V, 84), Samuel Keller (V, 15), and the President (IV, 11).

On motion it was decided by unanimous voice to publish such a history and that Dr. Eli Keller (V, 6) be requested to prepare manuscript for same. Also the following committees were appointed:

To assist Dr. Keller in gathering material for the book—Amos Keller (V, 13), J. A. Keller (IV, 11), Reuben Keller (V, 76), Elias Keller, J. A. Welsh, and Samuel Keller (V, 15).

On publication of the History—A. D. Keller (V, 84), J. A. Keller (IV, 11), and Reuben Keller (V, 76).

On arrangements for the reunion in 1905—O. J. (V, 71), Amos (V, 13), Abbie (V, 10), and Milton Keller (V, 41), and Mary J. Rader (V, 33).

Song—"God be with You."

Benediction—By the President.

Ninety-four persons were present.



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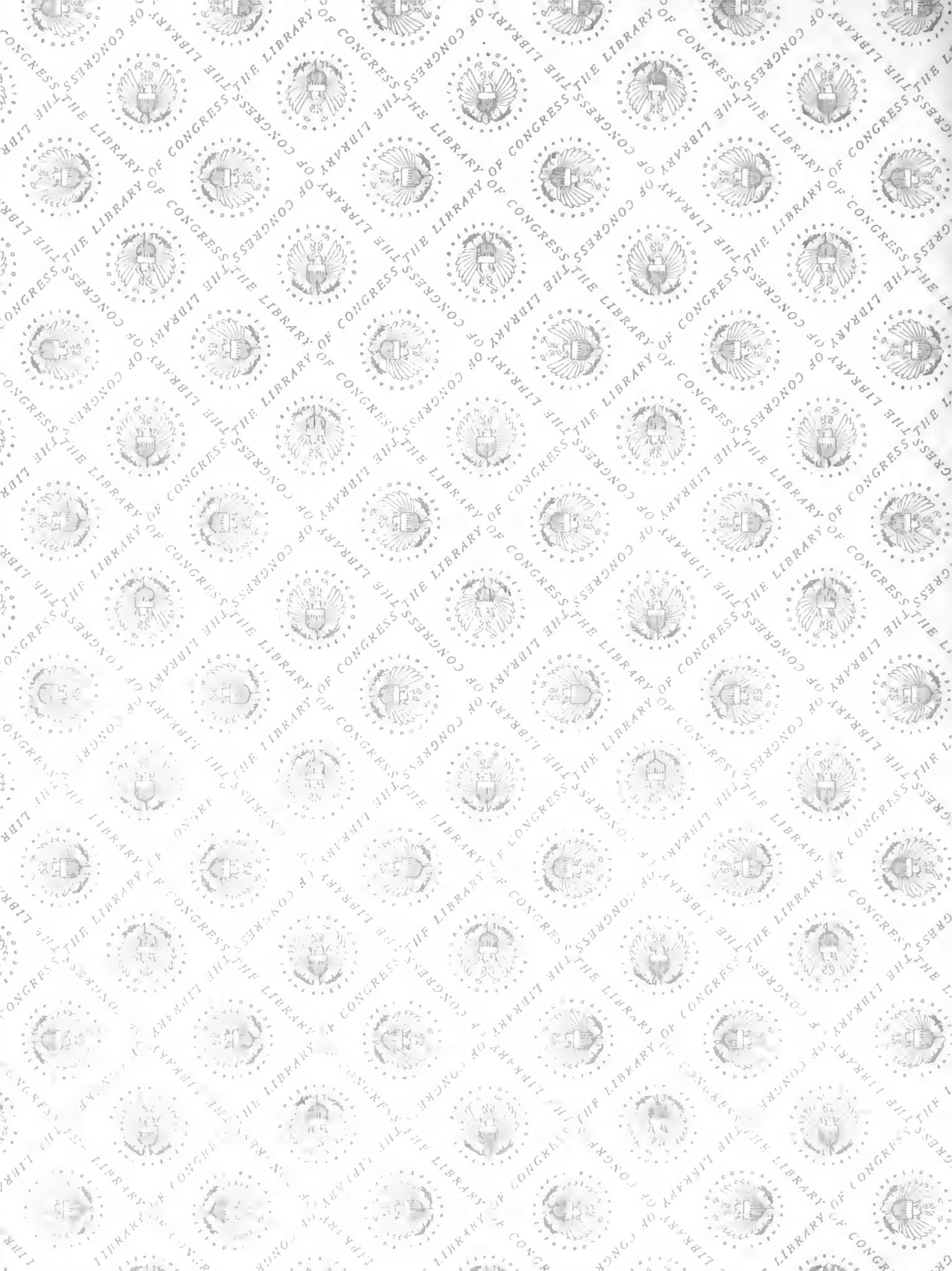
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